TYPE II ROTATOR CUFF REPAIR PROTOCOL

(arthroscopic tears for large to massive tears > 5 cm)

JOSEPH R. MISSON, MD

PATIENT		DATE OF SURGERY	
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*Initial Visit POD# 2 or #3, second visit Week 2-3, then visits at therapist discretion

GOALS

- 1 Maintain integrity of repair. Never overstress healing tissue
- 2 Reestablish full PROM as quickly and safely as possible
- 3 Reestablish dynamic humeral head control
- 4 Improve external rotation muscular strength and muscular balance
- 5 Initiate resisted shoulder abd and flex when muscular balance is restored
- 6 Caution against overaggressive activities (tissue healing constraints)
- 7 Restore patient's functional use of the shoulder, but do so gradually
- 8 Active rotator cuff muscles through inhibition of pain

PHASE I: IMMEDIATE POST SURGICAL PHASE - Initial visit POD #2 or #3 - Week 3

GOALS: Maintain integrity of repair

Diminish pain and inflammation Prevent muscular inhibition

PRECAUTIONS: Maintain arm in brace, remove for exercise

No lifting with involved arm

No excessive shoulder extension

No aggressive stretching or sudden movt. No supporting of body weight with hand

Keep incision dry and clean

DAY 1-6:

Sling or slight abduction brace (per physician)

Pendulum Exercises ONLY

Scapular retractions

Elbow/Hand gripping and ROM exercises

Cryotherapy (15-20 min every hour)

E-stim as needed for pain

Sleep in sling or brace

DAY 7-10:

Continue above exercises
Continue modalities as needed
Continue sleeping in brace

PHASE II: PROTECTION PHASE WEEK 4- WEEK 5

PRECAUTIONS: No lifting

GOALS: Allow healing of soft tissue

Do not overstress healing tissue Gradually restore full PROM Decrease pain and inflammation

No supporting of body weight with hand No sudden motions

No excessive behind the back movt

Weeks 4-5

Continue use of brace during sleep until week 4

Continue above exercises

Begin PROM Flex 0-90

ER to 30 at 90 degrees abd

IR to 30 at 90 degrees abd

Continue modalities as needed

Continue above precautions

PHASE III: EARLY INTERMEDIATE PHASE WEEK 6-12

GOALS: Full PROM week 10-12

Begin AROM

Dynamic Shoulder stability

Gradual restoration of shoulder strength and power

Weeks 6-9

Continue above exercises

Initiate therapist assisted, AAROM in supine (per patient tolerance)

AAROM with wand

Progressive PROM unitl approx full at 12 weeks

Initiate submax isometrics in standing with elbow bent

Initiate prone rowing to neutral arm position

Initiate Isotonic elbow flexion

May use heat prior to exercise

May use pool for light ROM exercises

Weeks 10-12

Continue above exercises

Initiate AROM

Shoulder flexion in scapular plane

Shoulder abduction

Initiate Isotonic strengthening

IR/ER tubing

Side lying ER/IR

Prone Rowing

Prone Horz abduction

Bicep Curls

Elbow Extension

PHASE III: LATE INTERMEDIATE PHASE WEEKS 13-16

GOALS: Full AROM week 16

Maintain full PROM

Dynamic Shoulder stability

Gradual restoration of shoulder strength and power

Gradual return to functional activities

Week 13

Continue above exercises as needed Initiate dynamic stabilization drills

Progress strengthening as listed above

Week 15

Initiate light functional activities when physician permits

PHASE IV: ADVANCED STRENGTHENING PHASE WEEK 17-23

GOALS: Maintain full nonpainful ROM

Enhance functional use of the UE

Improve muscular strength and power

Gradual return to functional activities

Week 17

Continue ROM and stretching to maintain full ROM

Self capsular stretching

Progress shoulder strengthening to functional shoulder exercises

Week 21

Continue above exercises

Continue to perform ROM stretching if motion is not complete

		PHASE V: RETURN TO ACTIVITY PHASE WEEK 24-30	
GOALS:	Gradual return to strenuous work activities		
	Gradual return to recreational sport activities		
	Week 24		
		Continue above exercises	
	Week 30		
		May initiate interval sport program, i.e. golf, etc	
Physician	Signature:		