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David S. Klein, D.O. Reconstructive Surgery, Fractures, and Sports Medicine

Rehabilitation Protocol: Arthroscopic Rotator Cuff Repair

Name: James Vitello Date: _____
Diagnosis: R CR Date of Surgery: 12/19/22

Phase I (Weeks 0-6)

- Sling immobilization with supporting abduction pillow to be worn at all times except for showering and rehab under guidance of PT (if instructed to start before 6 weeks postsurgery)

If physician wants therapy to start before 6 weeks post op:

- Range of Motion – True Passive Range of Motion Only to Patient Tolerance
 - Goals: 140° Forward Flexion, 40° External Rotation with elbow at side, 60-80° Abduction without rotation, Limit Internal Rotation to 40° with the shoulder in the 60-80° abducted position. Maintain elbow at or anterior to mid-axillary line when patient is supine
- Therapeutic Exercise – No canes or pulleys during this phase
 - Codman exercises/Pendulums
 - Elbow/Wrist/Hand Range of Motion and Grip strengthening
 - Isometric Scapular Stabilization
- Heat/Ice before and after PT sessions

Phase II (Weeks 6-8)

- Discontinue sling immobilization at 6 weeks post surgery
- Range of Motion
 - **6-8 weeks:** Gentle passive stretch to reach ROM goals from Phase I
 - **8-10 weeks:** Begin AAROM
- Therapeutic Exercise
 - **8-10 weeks:** Being gentle AAROM exercises (supine position), gentle joint mobilizations (grades I and II), continue with Phase I exercises

Phase III (Weeks 10-12)

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- Range of Motion – Begin AROM
- Therapeutic Exercise
 - Continue with scapular strengthening
 - Continue and progress with Phase II exercises
 - Begin Internal/External Rotation Isometrics
 - Stretch posterior capsule when arm is warmed-up
- Modalities per PT discretion

Phase IV (Months 3-6)

- Range of Motion – Full without discomfort
- Therapeutic Exercise – Advance strengthening as tolerated starting at 4 months: isometrics, therabands, light weights (1-5 lbs)
- 8-12 repetitions/2-3 sets for Rotator Cuff, Deltoid and Scapular Stabilizers
- Return to sports at 6 months if approved
- Modalities per PT discretion
- No strengthening or resistance exercises until 4 months post-op.

Comments:

****IF BICEPS TENODESIS WAS PERFORMED - NO BICEPS STRENGTHENING UNTIL 8 WEEKS POST-OP**

Frequency: 3 times per week. Duration: 12 weeks

Signature: _____

Date: _____

2/21/23

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