

ROTATOR CUFF REPAIR + SUBSCAPULARIS REPAIR PHYSICAL THERAPY PROTOCOL

Recommend 2-3x/week for 8 weeks Please contact office for renewal as needed

Days 0-7	Wrist flexion and extension: Codman's Exercises/Pendulums: Let arm move in clockwise and counter-clockwise motion, by rocking body weight in circular motion. Do this for 1 minute, 3x/day. With palm either up or thumb down, gently bend the elbow as far as possible, then straighten out as far as possible
	• 3 home exercises provided above: perform each exercise for 1-2 minutes, 3-4x/day
Weeks	Patient to remain in sling for 6 weeks AT ALL TIMES (except for personal hygiene) True PROM and the restator sufficient and a labeling health to the hone.
1-6	• True PROM only! The rotator cuff tendon is healing back to the bone
1-0	• ROM goals: 90° FF / 0° ER at side; ABD max 60° without rotation
	Grip strengthening Table slides
	Heat before PT / Ice after PT
	No resisted motions of the shoulder until 12 weeks post-op!
	No resisted motions of the shoulder until 12 weeks post-op: No canes/pulleys until 6 weeks post-op, because these are active assist exercises
Weeks	Begin AAROM
6-12	Advance to AROM as tolerated
0 12	ROM goals: same as above; but can increase as tolerated
	Light passive stretching at end ranges
	Begin scapular exercises, passive resistance exercise for large muscle groups
	(pecs/lats/etc.)
	• Isometrics with arm at side beginning at 8 weeks
Months	Advance to full ROM as tolerated with passive stretching at end ranges
3-12	 Advance strengthening as tolerated → bands → light weights (1-5 lbs for 8-12 reps / 2-3 sets for rotator cuff, deltoid and scapular stabilizers)
	Only do strengthening 3x/week to avoid rotator cuff tendinitis
	Begin eccentrically resisted motions, plyometrics, proprioception
	Begin sports-related rehab at 4.5 months, including advanced conditioning
	• Return to throwing at 6 months, throw from pitcher's mound at 9 months
	Collision sports at 9 months; MMI usually at 9-12 months post-op