

Rehabilitation following Anterior Capsulorrhaphy

Phase	Intervention	Goals and Criteria for Progression
Weeks 0-4 Post-Op	Post-Op Day 1: • Educate on precautions • Pendulum exercises, 25x in each direction, depending on surgeon recommendations • Forward Bow exercise • Elbow AROM, ball squeezes • Ice PRN ***Restrictions: NO ER past 30° for first 3 weeks, flexion to 90°	Protect incision/promote healing Permit capsular healing Control pain/inflammation Monitor for infection Patient education Initiate ROM exercises
Weeks 4-6 Post-Op	Continue w/ previous phase exercises	Initiate ROM
	Begin ROM progression in supine, progress to reclined, then to anti-gravity	Decrease pain
	Rhythmic stabilizations	Improve neuromuscular control and strength
	Manual resistance to scapular region	Be able to elevate to 90° elevation in scapular plane without humeral head elevation
	Add "scapular clocks"	Begin strengthening
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Weeks 6-12 Post-Op	Continue exercises from previous phase	Increase ROM to full AROM
	Add stretching into cross-body adduction, IR	Begin 90/90 ER progression about week 12
	Add resistance as tolerated	Increase strength of rotator cuff and scapular muscles
	Plyoball progression begins about week 12	Total arm strength
		Increase strength in functional positions (overhead, 90/90/overhead athlete)



Weeks 12- 16 months Post-Op	Progress exercises from previous phases When appropriate: • Push ups/DB bench pressing • Shoulder Press • UE Plyometric activities Bilateral shoulder flexion on the wall Wall Angels	Achieve full AROM in all planes Work on achievement of full PROM in functional positions Strength testing strong and painless, should not be able to "break" patient during test HHD testing when appropriate Return to work/sport or desired activities
Weeks 16 - 24 months Post-Op	Single arm plyoball throws Closed chain plyometrics Continue strengthening from previous phase Begin interval throwing/sport program Wall Flexion, Wall Angels	Achieve full AROM/PROM in all planes Full flexion in supine, humerus resting on table Able to lay in supine w/ arms overhead Normal wall flexion and wall angels Continue working on achievement of full PROM in functional positions Strength testing strong and painless, should not be able to "break" patient during test HHD testing when appropriate Return to work/sport or desired activities Emphasize prevention and long-term HEP CRITERIA FOR RETURN TO SPORT CONSIDERATION: Normal wall flexion and wall angels Symmetrical AROM Strength testing painless. IR:ER ratio at least 66% Symmetrical UE YBT In contact athletes: Single arm DB bench press for 30 seconds 20-30% BW Interval sport program completed