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ARTHROSCOPIC ROTATOR CUFF REPAIR REHAB

Weeks 0-1:

- Patient to do Home Exercises given post-op (pendulums, elbow ROM, wrist ROM, grip strengthening)
- Patient to remain in sling for 6 weeks, including sleep!

Weeks 1-6:

- True passive ROM only! The rotator cuff tendon needs to heal back into the bone
- ROM goals: 140° FF/40° ER at side; ABD max 60-80° without rotation
 - Limited external rotation for 4 weeks.
- No resisted motions of shoulder until 12 weeks post-op
- Grip strengthening
- No canes/pulleys until 6 weeks post-op, because these are active-assist exercises
- Heat before PT, ice after PT

*****For subscapularis repair: Codman's, posterior capsule mobilizations; avoid stretch of anterior capsule and shoulder extension; No ACTIVE INTERNAL ROTATION FOR 6 WEEKS!! PASSIVE AND ACTIVE ASSISTED EXTERNAL ROTATION IS LIMITED FOR 6 WEEKS FOR SUBSCAPULARIS REPAIR.**

Weeks 6-12:

- Begin AAROM - AROM as tolerated
- Goals: Same as above, but can increase as tolerated
- Light passive stretching at end ranges
- Begin scapular exercises, PRE's for large muscle groups (pecs, lats, etc)
- At 11-12 weeks, can begin strengthening/resisted motions
- Isometrics 6 weeks postop. Arm at side beginning at 8 weeks

Months 3-12:

- Advance to full ROM as tolerated with passive stretching at end ranges
- Advance strengthening as tolerated: isometrics - bands - light weights (1-5 lbs); 8-12 reps/2-3 sets per rotator cuff, deltoid, and scapular stabilizers
- Only do strengthening 3x/week to avoid rotator cuff tendonitis
- Begin eccentrically resisted motions, plyometrics (ex. Weighted ball toss), proprioception (es. body blade)
- Begin sports related rehab at 4 ½ months, including advanced conditioning
- Return to throwing at 6 months
- Throw from pitcher's mound at 9 months
- Collision sports at 9 months
- MMI is usually at 12 months post-op