



Shoulder Replacement – Anatomic and Reverse



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Physical Therapy Prescription

Please fax progress notes to Advanced Orthopedics & Sports Medicine at 720-895-1121

Name: _____

Date of Surgery: _____

Diagnosis: R / L Shoulder Replacement (TSA / RSP)

Frequency: 2-3 times per week for _____ weeks, Therapy to start 4 weeks after surgery

Phase 1: Hospital to 1st Follow up – Protect Subscapularis (0 to 4 weeks)

- Patients may shower 48 hours after surgery
- Sutures are all underneath the skin and will dissolve on their own
- **Sling should be worn at all times** with the only exceptions of bathing/showering, changing clothing, and performing therapy/rehab exercises.
- While lying supine, the distal humerus/elbow should be supported by a pillow or towel roll to avoid shoulder extension
- Therapist should teach the following in hospital on POD1 to be performed 3 times per day starting **immediately** after surgery:
 - Elbow, forearm, and hand AROM
 - Supine passive ROM – flexion to 130, ER to 20 – See Handout
Supine exercises should be performed with a small towel placed behind the elbow to avoid shoulder hyperextension and anterior capsular stretch
 - **Emphasize home program and proper home program safety**

Phase 2: Protect the Subscapularis (4 to 6 weeks)

- Sling should be worn at night and when out of house. May remove the sling for brief during the day with the following restrictions:
 - Limit ER to 20
 - No resisted IR
 - Avoid extension of shoulder
 - Avoid reaching behind the back
 - Do not lift anything greater than 2 to 3 lbs with the involved hand (“no heavier than a coffee cup”)
 - While lying supine, the distal humerus/elbow should be supported by a pillow or towel roll to avoid shoulder extension
- Continue Phase 1 exercises with the addition of:
 - Pendulums
 - AAROM - Pulleys into scapular plane elevation to 130, ER to 20
 - Supine AAROM into flexion and ER with above limits
 - Emphasize home program

Signature: _____

Date:

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Phase 3: (6 weeks -10 weeks)

- Discontinue sling use
- Lifting restriction of 10 pounds remains
- Advance AROM and PROM as tolerated
 - Maintain ER limit of 30 until 10 weeks.
 - Advance elevation as tolerated
- Scapular stabilizer strengthening.
- Strengthen rotator cuff and shoulder musculature (Isometrics, Theraband, dumbbell, etc). **AVOID RESISTED IR OR EXTENSION UNTIL 10 WEEKS.**

Phase 4: (>10 weeks)

- Advance shoulder ER range of motion as tolerated (Light stretching only).
 - Anticipate some shoulder stiffness for up to 6 months (and maybe longer), especially in ER
- May initiate subscapularis strengthening (resisted IR and extension).
- Advance shoulder and rotator cuff strengthening as tolerated.
- Incorporate low level functional activities at 3 months (swimming, water aerobics, light tennis, jogging)
- Start higher-level activities at 4 months (tennis, light weight training, and golf).
- Initiate functional progression to sports specific activities after 4 months.