Rotator Cuff Repair Dr. Bradley Raphael MD

Complete Supraspinatus Repair Physical Therapy Protocol Medium Tear

STAGE 1 Protection

Post-Operative 0-3 Weeks

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Do not start physical thrperapy until instructed to.

GOALS

- Protect repaired tendon.
- Full passive range of motion.
- Decrease pain.

PRECAUTIONS

• No resistive abduction.

TREATMENT

- Sling at all times, during the day and at night.
- Pendulum exercises.
- Pain control modalities.
- Passive range of motion.
- (painfree, gentle and gradual progression to full range of motion as tolerated)

Post-Operative 3-6 Weeks

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TREATMENT

Continue with sling

Discontinue sling at 6 Weeks

Only after follow-up appointment with Dr. Raphael.

Active assistive ROM

internal (towel) external rotation (t-bar) wall pulleys for flexion and abduction.

- Continue with passive ROM. If passive ROM isn't progressing structured aquatic exercises only with physician discretion.
- Submaximal isometrics for all planes EXCEPT ABDUCTION.
- Elbow exercises.
- Hand gripping exercises.
- Began scapular stabilization exercises, no resistance.



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STAGE 2 Intermediate

Post-Operative 6-12 Weeks

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GOALS

- Prepare for strengthening.
- Home exercise program.

PRECAUTIONS

• Gentle PRE's in abduction.

TREATMENT

- Active assistive ROM exercises.
 - t-bar for flexion, abduction and extension.
- Shoulder abduction isometrics sub-maximal to maximal efforts in all planes.
- Tubing for internal and external rotation progressing to PRE's as appropriate.
- Add resistance to scapular stabilization exercise sub-maximal to maximal effort, push up, push up plus, seated depressions.
- Add Rotator cuff program without resistance (standing to 90) may add weight at 10 weeks if appropriate and approved by physician.
- Home exercise program as above

STAGE 3 Strengthening

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Post-Operative 12-18 Weeks

GOALS

- Full strength for release by physician at 18 weeks if appropriate.
- Home exercise program.

TREATMENT

- Continue with exercises as above.
- Add resistance to rotator cuff program (if not added at 10 weeks)
- Neuromuscular re-education and sports specific activities.
- Home exercise program as above.



SOS SYRACUSE ORTHOPEDIC SPECIALISTS

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