



Rehabilitation Protocol SLAP Repair

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PHASE I: PROTECT REPAIR, RESTORE ROM

(0 to 6 weeks after surgery)

- Patients may shower on post-op day # 2.
- Sutures will be removed by surgeon in 7 to 10 days.
- Ice or cold flow systems encouraged for the first week at a minimum: should be used 3-4 times per day.
- Sling should be in place when not performing exercises.
- Scapular ROM exercises.
- No lifting with involved extremity.
- Avoid pure active shoulder exercises, resisted biceps exercises.
- Avoid shoulder rotation ROM from abducted position and cross body motions.
- Initiate exercise program 3 times per day:
 - Immediate elbow, forearm and hand range of motion out of sling
 - Pendulum exercises
 - Passive and active assistive ROM – flexion and scapular plane elevation to tolerance, ER to 45 (pulleys, supine gravity assisted exercises)
 - Emphasize home program

PHASE II: ADVANCE ROM

(6 to 12 weeks after surgery)

- May discontinue sling.
- Lifting restriction of 10 pounds should be reinforced with patient until 3 months.
- Advance to AROM exercises.
- Advance PROM and capsular mobility as tolerated.
- Avoid rotational ROM in abducted position until 8 weeks post-op.
- Initiate rotator cuff and gentle biceps strengthening (up to 10 lbs).

PHASE III: RESTORE FUNCTION

(>3 months after surgery)

- Discontinue lifting restriction.
- Advance to higher level rotator cuff and scapular stabilizer strengthening.
- Start throwing progression if applicable.