Mayo Clinic in Florida



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Shoulder Hemiarthroplasty Rehabilitation Protocol

Phase	Goals	Precautions / Restrictions	Treatment
Weeks 0 – 3	 Protect surgical site and repair. Emphasize PRICE. 	• PATIENT IS TO HAVE NO THERAPY TO SHOULDER DURING THIS TIME.	 FULL AROM / AAROM / PROM of the elbow / wrist / hand Initial visit: FOTO PRO, QuickDASH
Weeks 3 – 6	 Protect surgical site and repair Decrease pain and inflammation 	 Remain in sling with abduction pillow for 6 weeks No active shoulder ROM No lifting of any object 	 AROM of elbow, wrist and hand Introduce pendulum / Codman exercises PROM ONLY of the Shoulder with Forward elevation to 90° with neutral rotation and ER to 0°. Teach HEP (2x per day)
Weeks 6 – 12	 Maintain integrity of repair PASSIVE ROM by week 12: Flexion 90° - 120° ER 0 - 30° Improve muscle activation and strength Improve motor control Teach HEP (2x per day) 	 May discontinue pillow at week 6, and wean out of sling as able over next 1 - 2 weeks Do not force motion No weight bearing through the involved shoulder Biceps curls (2 lb. limit) No driving until the patient has normalized their arm function 	 Initiate shoulder motion: PROM -> AAROM -> AROM Initiate scapular stability exercise Initiate shoulder isometrics (FE and ER ONLY): No IR, may begin IR isometrics at week 12 Initiate manual resistance for isometrics or proprioceptive neuromuscular facilitation (PNF) Continue with cardiovascular endurance Modalities as needed Week 6: QuickDASH, FOTO PRO
Weeks 12 – 16	 ACTIVE ROM by week 16: Flexion 120° - 140° ER 30 - 40° 	 Slowly advance 5 lb. restriction 10 lb. max lifting restriction May use open kinetic chain as 	 Increase scapular strengthening and stabilization Initiate RTC isotonics as able provided no shoulder compensatory patterns
(Months 3 – 4)	 Increase functional activity Improve strength of RTC and scapular stabilizers Improve endurance of RTC and scapular stabilizers Increase intensity of exercise as tolerated 	tolerated within restrictions and patient tolerance	 Continue with cardiovascular endurance Continue with core stability Incorporate soft tissue mobility/scar massage as needed Modalities as needed Week 12, QuickDASH, FOTO PRO
Weeks 16 – 24 (Months 4 – 6)	 Maintain pain free ROM Improve strength and endurance of RTC and scapular stabilizers 	 Slowly advance from 10 lb. restriction to 25 lbs. Begin work-specific activities as appropriate. 	 Week 16: Continue Active Range of Motion FOTO, QuickDASH Advancement to isotonic exercise per tolerance in all planes, including multiplane exercises as long as: Isometrics are progressing No compensations during exercise performance
Weeks 24 + (Months 6+)	 Initiate return to sport progression Initiate higher level impact activity 	 Focus on form and control during exercise performance Modify work, recreational or functional activity as necessary Progress from 25 lb. weight lifting restriction to 50 lbs. by 1 year After 1 year may initiate recreational lifting > 50 lbs. 	 Continue with strength of total UE and scapular stabilizers Low level sport specific activity, progressing to higher demand activity Continue with Anaerobic + Aerobic interval training Week 24: QuickDASH, FOTO, HHD / Isokinetics

This protocol is not meant to be prescriptive but a recommendation to guide the rehabilitation process. Each patient's progress may vary based on specifics of their injury and procedure.

