DISLOCATED SHOULDER



Shoulder Dislocation Rehab Protocol (Non-Operative)

First Time Dislocators: May be immobilized for 4-6 weeks before starting physical therapy.

Recurrent Dislocators: Physical therapy can begin immediately

Phase I: 0-4 weeks (typically)

Goals: Re-establish full motion

Retard muscular atrophy

Decrease pain and inflammation

Allow capsular healing

- AAROM with wand to tolerance
- Begin IR/ER at side, progress to 30degrees, 60 degrees then 90
- degrees AB as pain subsides
- Submax isometrics for all shoulder musculature
- Gentle joint mobs & PROM
- Modalities PRN (ice, IFC-Estim etc . . .) to decrease inflammation and pain

Phase II: 4-8 weeks

Goals: Increase dynamic stability

Increase strength

Maintain full motion

- Isotonic Strenghtening: Rotator Cuff, Scapular Stabilizers, Deltoid, Biceps, Triceps
- Rhythmic Stabilization: Basic, Intermediate, Advanced

Phase III: 8-12

Goals: Increase neuromuscular control (especially in apprehension position)

Progress dynamic stability Increase overall strength

- Continue to progress previous isotonic exercises
- Begin dynamic stabilization: Basic, Intermediate, Advanced
- Introduce basic plyometrics
- *In Athletes begin to work ER/IR in 90 degrees AB

Phase IV: Return to Activity

Goals: Progressively increase activities to patient for full functional return

- Continue previous isotonic strengthening program
- Advance plyometrics
- Instruct in maintenance program prior to discharge



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