

ADVANCED ORTHOPAEDIC SPECIALISTS

Postoperative Rehabilitation Following Chronic Ulnar Collateral Ligament Reconstruction Using Autogenous Grafts

	Goals	ROM	Therapeutic Exercises
Phase I 0 - 3 Weeks PT 2x/week	 Protect healing tissue Decrease pain/inflammation Retard muscular atrophy 	Week 1: Postoperative splint at 90° Week 2: Application of functional brace 30° to 100° Week 3: Advance brace to 10-110° (gradually increase ROM; 5° extension/10° flexion per week)	 Week 1: Wrist AROM ext/flexion. Elbow compression dressing (2 to 3 days). Exercises such as gripping exercises, wrist ROM, shoulder isometrics (except shoulder ER, biceps isometrics). Cryotherapy. Week 2: Initiate wrist isometrics. Initiate elbow flex/ext isometrics. Continue all exercises listed above. Week 3: Continue above exercises
Phase II 4 - 8 Weeks Weeks 4-6: PT 2x/week Weeks 7-16: PT 1x/week, AFP 1-2x/week	 Gradual increase in range of motion Promote healing of repaired tissue Regain and improve muscular strength 	Week 4: Functional brace set 10-120° Week 6: Brace set to 0-130° AROM should be 0-145° without brace	 Week 4: Begin light resistance exercises for arm (1lb), wrist curls, extensions pronation/supination elbow ext/flexion. Progress shoulder external rotation emphasize rotator cuff strengthening (avoid ER until 6th week). Continue all exercises listed above. Week 6: Progress elbow strengthening exercises. Initiate shoulder external rotation strengthening. Progress shoulder program.
Phase III 9 - 13 Weeks	 Increase strength/power/endurance Maintain full elbow ROM Gradually initiate sporting activities 	Full ROM	 Week 9: Initiate eccentric elbow flexion/extension. Continue isotonic program; forearm and wrist. Continue shoulder program — (Throwers Ten Program). Manual resistance diagonal patterns. Initiate plyometric exercise program. Week 11: Continue all exercises listed above. May begin light sport activities (e.g. golf, swimming).
Phase IV 14 - 26 Weeks	 Continue to increase strength, power, and endurance of upper extremity musculature Gradual return to sport activities 	Full ROM	Week 14: Initiate interval throwing program (phase 1). Continue strengthening program. Emphasis on elbow and wrist strengthening and flexibility exercise Weeks 22-26: Return to competitive throwing

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