Prisma Health

Blue Ridge Orthopaedics-Easley

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Sports Medicine and Shoulder Surgery

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PHYSICAL THERAPY PROTOCOL EARLY MOTION - PROXIMAL HUMERUS FRACTURE

PROCEDURE		Date of Surgery/Injury:		
		R L		
		[] ORIF Proximal Humerus Fracture		
		[] Proximal Humerus Fracture – Non-operative Treatment		
PLAN		Physical Therapy for R L Shoulder		
			1-2x Per Week x 16 Weeks	
GENERAL GUIDELINES		Goal: Regain full pain-free ROM and strength of shoulder and prevent elbow and wrist stiffness.		
		Please read and follow guidelines below. Progression is both criteria-based and patient specific.		
		Phases and time frames are designed to give the clinician a general sense of progression. Phases and		
		time frames are designed to give the clinician a general sense of progression. Concomitant injuries		
		may alter the guidelines.		
		Follow physician's modifications as prescribed		
	RANGE OF MOTION	IMMOBILIZER	EXERCISES	
PHASE I	■ Week 1: Early Passive	0-4 weeks:	• Week 1: elbow/wrist ROM, grip strengthening at home PROM:	
0-5 weeks	Motion	 Immobilized at all 	supine Flexion to 90°, and ER (very gentle)	
	■ Week 2: Codman, ER	times day and night	■ Week 2: Begin Codman exercise, ER with stick to 30° (support elbow	
	■ Week 3-5: begin AAROM	 Off for hygiene and 	with folded towel shoulder in 15° ABD) Scapular Stabilization: clocks,	
	when pain diminishes and pt	gentle exercise only	retraction (no shoulder extension)	
	is less apprehensive. ROM:		■ Week 3-5: AAROM flexion to 140° if clinical stable, cane flexion,	
	external rotation to 45°,		pulley flexion, begin submaximal isometrics ER, flexion (week 4-5),	
	extension to 20°, Begin		begin flexion and ABD on table slides to, posterior capsule	
	Isometrics, Slide board		mobilizations; avoid stretch of anterior capsule and extension; closed	
			chain scapula	

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PHASE II	■ Begin AROM, Full PROM	■ None	■ Week 6-8: Begin AROM, progressive flexion (supine, seated,
6-12 weeks	Goals: Full extension		standing)
	rotation, 135° flexion, 120°		 Begin Extension and IR (PROM, AROM, Isometrics)
	abduction		Begin Multi-angle Isometrics,
			■ Week 8-10: Early Resisted ROM, Begin resistive exercises for
			scapular stabilizers, biceps, triceps and rotator cuff* Theraband,
			 UBE (no resistance), add weights only when pain-free
			Begin gentle patient self-stretch
			Begin muscle endurance activities (upper body ergometer)
PHASE III	 Gradual return to full AROM 	■ None	Advance activities in Phase II; emphasize external rotation and
12-16 weeks			latissimus eccentrics, glenohumeral stabilization
			Aggressive scapular stabilization and eccentric strengthening
			 Cycling/running okay at 12 weeks or sooner if given specific
			clearance
PHASE IV	Full and pain-free	None	Maintain ROM and flexibility
4-5 months			Progress Phase III activities, return to full activity as tolerated