I. **Phase I - Immediate Post-Surgical Phase (Day 1-10)**

**Goals:** Maintain Integrity of the Repair  
Gradually Increase Passive Range of Motion  
Diminish Pain and Inflammation  
Prevent Muscular Inhibition

**Day One to Six:**

- Sling or Slight Abduction Brace **Physician Decision**
- Pendulum Exercises 4-8x daily (flexion, circles)
- Active Assisted ROM Exercise (L-Bar)
  - ER/IR in Scapular Plane
- Passive ROM
  - Flexion to tolerance
  - ER/IR in Scapular Plane
- Elbow/Hand Gripping & ROM Exercises
- Submaximal Painfree Isometrics
  - Flexion
  - Abduction
  - External Rotation
  - Internal Rotation
  - Elbow Flexors
- Cryotherapy for Pain and Inflammation
  - Ice 15-20 minutes every hour
- Sleeping
  - Sleep in Sling or Brace

**Day Seven to Ten:**

- Discontinue Sling/Brace at Day 10-14
- Continue Pendulum Exercises
- Progress Passive ROM to Tolerance
  - Flexion to at least 105 degrees
  - ER in Scapular Plane to 35-45 degrees
  - IR in Scapular Plane to 35-45 degrees
- Active Assisted ROM Exercises (L-bar)
  - ER/IR in Scapular Plane
  - Flexion to Tolerance*  
  *Therapist Provides Assistance by Supporting Arm
- Continue Elbow/Hand ROM & Gripping Exercises
- Continue Isometrics
  - Flexion with Bent Elbow
  - Extension with Bent Elbow
  - Abduction with Bent Elbow
  - ER/IR with Arm in Scapular Plane
  - Elbow Flexion
Phase I: Continued:

- Continue Use of Ice for Pain Control
  - Use Ice at least 6-7 times daily

- Sleeping
  - Continue Sleeping in Brace until Physician Instructs

Precautions:
1. No Lifting of Objects
2. No Excessive Shoulder Extension
3. No Excessive Stretching or Sudden Movements
4. No Supporting of Body Weight by Hands
5. Keep Incision Clean & Dry

II. Phase II - Protection Phase (Day 11 – Week 6)

Goals: Allow Healing of Soft Tissue
- Do Not Overstress Healing Tissue
- Gradually Restore Full Passive ROM (Week 4-5)
- Re-Establish Dynamic Shoulder Stability
- Decrease Pain & Inflammation

Day 11 – 14:

- Discontinue Use of Sling or Brace
- Passive Range of Motion to Tolerance
  - Flexion 0-125/145 degrees
  - ER at 90 degrees abduction to at least 45 degrees
  - IR at 90 degrees abduction to at least 45 degrees
- Active Assisted ROM to Tolerance
  - Flexion
  - ER/IR in Scapular Plane
  - ER/IR at 90 degrees Abduction

- Dynamic Stabilization Drills
  - Rhythmic Stabilization Drills
    - ER/IR in Scapular Plane
    - Flexion/Extension at 100 degrees Flexion
- Continue All Isometric Contractions
- Continue Use of Cryotherapy as needed
- Continue All Precautions

Week 3 - 4:

- Patient should exhibit full passive range of motion
- Continue all exercises listed above
- Initiate ER/IR strengthening using exercise tubing at 0 degrees of abduction
- Initiate Manual Resistance ER Supine in Scapular Plane
- Initiate Prone Rowing to Neutral arm Position
- Initiate Isotonic Elbow Flexion
- Continue use of ice as needed
- May use heat prior to ROM exercises
- May use pool for light ROM exercises
Phase II: Continued:

Week 5 – 6:
- May use heat prior to exercises
- Continue AAROM and Stretching exercises
- Initiate Active ROM Exercises
  - Shoulder Flexion Scapular Plane
  - Shoulder Abduction
- Progress Isotonic Strengthening Exercise Program
  - ER Tubing
  - Sidelying ER
  - Prone Rowing
  - Prone Horizontal Abduction
  - Biceps Curls

Precautions:
1. No Heavy Lifting of Objects
2. No excessive behind the back movements
3. No Supporting of Body Weight by Hands & Arms
4. No Sudden Jerking Motions

III. Phase III – Intermediate Phase (Week 7-14)
Goals: Full Active ROM (Week 8-10)
- Full Passive ROM
- Dynamic Shoulder Stability
- Gradual Restoration of Shoulder Strength & Power
- Gradual Return to Functional Activities

Week 7:
- Continue Stretching & PROM (as needed to maintain full ROM)
- Continue Dynamic Stabilization Drills
- Progress Strengthening Program
  - ER/IR Tubing
  - ER Sidelying
  - Lateral Raises*
  - Full Can in Scapular Plane*
  - Prone Rowing
  - Prone Horizontal Abduction
  - Prone Extension
  - Elbow Flexion
  - Elbow Extension

*Patient must be able to elevate arm without shoulder or scapular hiking before initiating isotonics; if unable, continue glenohumeral dynamic stabilization exercises.

Week 8:
- Continue all exercise listed above
- If physician permits, may initiate Light functional activities

Week 14:
- Continue all exercise listed above
- Progress to Independent Home Exercise Program (Fundamental Shoulder Exercises)
### IV. Phase IV – Advanced Strengthening Phase (Week 15 - 22)

**Goals:**
- Maintain Full Non-Painful ROM
- Enhance Functional Use of UE
- Improve Muscular Strengthen & Power
- Gradual Return to Functional Activities

**Week 15:**
- Continue ROM & Stretching to maintain full ROM
- Self Capsular Stretches
- Progress Shoulder Strengthening Exercises
  - Fundamental Shoulder Exercises
- Initiate Interval Golf Program (if appropriate)

**Week 20:**
- Continue all exercises listed above
- Progress Golf Program to playing golf (if appropriate)
- Initiate Interval Tennis Program (if appropriate)
- May Initiate Swimming

### V. Phase V – Return to Activity Phase (Week 23 - 30)

**Goals:**
- Gradual Return to Strenuous Work Activities
- Gradual Return to Recreational Sport Activities

**Week 23:**
- Continue Fundamental Shoulder Exercise Program (at least 4 times weekly)
- Continue Stretching, if motion is tight
- Continue Progression to Sport Participation

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