



Orthopaedic Associates of Zanesville

Post Operative Physical Therapy Guidelines

Dr Brautigan, MD

Dr Burka, DO

Total Shoulder Arthroplasty, Reverse Total Shoulder Arthroplasty, Hemiarthroplasty

The intent of this protocol is to provide the clinician with a general guideline of the post-operative course of the patient that has undergone the above stated procedure. It is by no means intended to substitute for one's clinical decision making regarding the progression of a patient's post-operative course based on their physical exam findings, individual progress, and/or the presence of possible post-operative complications. If a clinician requires assistance in the progression, please contact the referring surgeon's office.

0-6 Weeks:

- PROM – AAROM – as tolerated, except the following:
 - No active IR/backwards extension for 6 weeks. The subscapularis tendon is taken down for the surgery and then repaired afterwards. It takes about 4-6 weeks for it to grown back into the humerus and regenerate a blood and nerve supply.
- PROM in biceps flexion for first 6 weeks
- ROM goals: Week 1: 120° FF/20° ER at side; ABD max 75° without rotation
- ROM goals: Week 2: 140° FF/40° ER at side; ABD max 75° without rotation
- No resisted internal rotation/backward extension until 12 weeks post-op
- Grip strengthening OK
- Canes/pulleys OK if advancing from PROM
- Heat before PT, ice after PT
- Sling 6 weeks, may DC abduction pillow at 4 weeks

Weeks 6-12:

- Begin AAROM / AROM for internal rotation and backwards extension as tolerated, if not already begun.
- Goals: Increase ROM as tolerated with gentle passive stretching at end ranges
- Begin light resisted ER/FF/ABD: isometrics and bands, concentric motions only
- No resisted internal rotation/backwards extension until 12 weeks post-op
- No scapular retractions with bands yet

>12 Weeks:

- Begin resisted IR/BE (isometrics/bands): isometrics / light bands / weights
- Advance strengthening as tolerated; 10 reps/1 set per exercise for rotator cuff, deltoid, and scapular stabilizers.
- Increase ROM to full with passive stretching at end ranges
- Begin eccentric motions, plyometrics, and closed chain exercises at 12 weeks.