SUPERIOR LABRUM ANTERIOR TO POSTERIOR (SLAP) REPAIR POST OPERATIVE PROTOCOL

| | Time Frame (Weeks) | Guidelines | Goals |
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| PHASE I | 0 to 2 | SLING: 4-6 weeks EXERCISE PROGRESSION Ice and modalities to reduce pain and inflammation Cervical ROM, basic deep neck flexor activation (chin tucks) PROM elbow flexion/extension Active hand and wrist range of motion. PROM shoulder flexion to 90°, ER to 0° at 0° abduction Walks, low intensity cardio exercise to promote healing. MANUAL INTERVENTION UT, parascapular STM as needed. Effleurage massage to forearm and upper arm as needed. | Reduce inflammation Decrease pain Postural education |
| PHASE II | 2 to 6 | EXERCISE PROGRESSION ROM at least 3x/day. Supine flexion and ER using T-bar. Serratus activation; ceiling punch (weight of arm) many initially need assistance. Manual perturbations supine with arm in 90° flexion. Scapular strengthening – prone scapular series rows, I's and T's. Emphasize scapular strengthening under 90°. External rotation on side (no resistance). Gentle sub-max isometrics. DNF and proper postural positioning with shoulder retraction exercises. Cervical ROM Low/moderate cardio exercise; Elliptical OK, no running MANUAL INTERVENTION STM – global shoulder and CT junction. Scar tissue mobilization when incisions are healed. Graded GH mobilizations. ST mobilization. Gentle sub-maximal therapist directed isometrics to achieve ROM goals. | Postural education with cervical spine, neutral scapular positioning. Shoulder flexion to 120° by week 4 then gradually progress to full. Shoulder external rotation 30° at 0° and 45° abduction week 2-4. Progress to 60° ER at 45-70° abduction by week 6. Gradually advance to full ER by week 10-12. Advance ROM as joint feel dictates. Push ROM if tight, gradual increase if there is a soft end feel. |
| PHASE III | 6 to 12 | EXERCISE PROGRESSION Continue with combined passive/active program to full ROM. Internal rotation with thumb up back and sleeper stretch. Continue with ceiling punch adding weight as tolerated. Advance intensity of sub-maximal RC isometrics. May discontinue once isotonic RC/SS program full implemented. Advance prone series to include Y's resistance as tolerated. Resisted ER in side-lying or with bands. Gym: rows, front lat pulls, biceps and triceps. Scaption; normalize ST arthrokinematics. Active ER at 90° seated adding resistance as tolerated. Supine progressing to standing PNF patterns, add resistance as tolerated. CKC progression – Quadruped, ball compression, counter weight shift, knee scapular push-ups, knee push-ups; all as tolerated. 1/2 to 3/4 ROM protecting the anterior shoulder capsule. MANUAL INTERVENTION STM and Joint mobilization to CT junction, GHJ and STJ as needed. CR/RS to gain ROM while respecting repaired tissue. Manual perturbations. PNF patterns. | Gradual progression to full P/ AROM by week 10-12 Normalize GH/ST arthrokinematics. Activate RC/SS with isometric and isotonic progression. |

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| PHASE IV | 12 to 24 | EXERCISE PROGRESSION Full range of motion all planes. Advance strengthening at or above 90° with prone or standing Y's, 90/90 as scapular control and ROM permit. Continue to progress RC and scapular strengthening program. Continue with closed chain quadruped perturbations; add open chain as strength permits. Advance gym strengthening program maintaining anterior shoulder precautions with pressing and chest fly exercises. Initiate plyometric and rebounder drills as appropriate. RTS testing for interval programs (golf, tennis etc.) with Microfet dynamometer. Follow-up examination with the physician (6 months) for release to full activity. MANUAL INTERVENTION STM and Joint mobilization to CT junction, GHJ and STJ as needed. CR/RS to gain ROM while respecting repaired tissue. Manual perturbations. PNF patterns. CRITERIA FOR RETURN TO FULL ACTIVITY Full, pain-free ROM Normal GH/ST arthrokinimatics >90% MMT using handheld dynamometer Full progression through interval program. Anticipated return to play for overhead athlete is 6-9 months. | Gradual progression to full ROM. Normalize GH/ST arthrokinematics. Advance gym strengthening program. Begin RTS progression. Evaluation with physician for clearance to full activity. |