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Post-Operative Protocol- Small/Medium Rotator Cuff Repair

Patient Name: _____ Date: _____

Diagnosis: _____ Date of Surgery: _____

_____ Provide patient with home exercise program

0-6 Weeks:

- Slingshot / Gunslinger Brace for 6 weeks
- Isometrics in brace, gentle supported Codman exercises
- PROM only for 6 weeks
- Grip strengthening, elbow ROM, wrist ROM

6-12 Weeks:

- Sling at night, can discontinue using the sling during the day
- AROM only as tolerated to increase ROM; no PT stretching or manipulation
- Restrict to 140° FF/ 40° ER at side/ IR to stomach/ 45° Abduction
- Scapular stabilization exercises avoiding anterior capsule stress
- Begin light isometrics for rotator cuff and deltoid, with arm at the side
- Can begin stationary bike

3-12 Months:

- Advance strengthening as tolerated: isometrics → bands → light weights (1-5 lbs); 8-12 reps/2-3 set per exercise for rotator cuff, deltoid, and scapular stabilizers
- Only do strengthening 3x/week to avoid rotator cuff tendonitis
- If ROM lacking, increase to full with gentle passive stretching at end ranges
- Begin eccentric motions, plyometrics (ex. Weighted ball toss), and closed chain exercises at 16 weeks
- Begin sports related rehab at 4 ½ months, including advanced conditioning
- Return to throwing at 6 months
- Throw from pitcher's mound at 9 months
- No collision sports allowed x 12 months

_____ Other:

Modalities: _____ Electric Stimulation _____ Ultrasound _____ Heat before/Ice after

Frequency: _____ x/ week x _____ weeks

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