

H. Scott Ellsworth, MD

Rehabilitation Protocol: RTSA for Fracture

Phase I (0-6 weeks): Protect the Tuberosity Repair

- Weeks 0-2
 - o Sling at all times except for showering, eating, and exercises
 - o Elbow, wrist, and finger ROM
 - o Pendulums and shoulder shrugs
 - o Strict NWB to operative extremity
- Weeks 2-6
 - o Begin PROM and AAROM with pulleys and wand exercises
 - ROM limits: FE 130 degrees, ER 30 degrees
 - NO IR/extension behind the back
 - 5lbs lifting restriction at waist level
 - No pushing off with the operative arm

Phase II (6-12 weeks): Advance ROM

- Lifting restriction of 5 lbs
- Scapular stabilizer and strengthening
- Advance AAROM and PROM
 - o Flexion and scapular plane elevation to tolerance
 - o ER to 45 degrees
 - o Extension ROM to 30 degrees
 - o Gentle IR stretching

Phase III (12+ weeks): Return to Full Activity

- Discontinue lifting restrictions
- Advance shoulder ROM as tolerated in all planes
- May initiate rotator cuff strengthening
- Continue scapular stabilizer strengthening
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- Incorporate low level functional activities at 12 weeks
 - o Swimming, water aerobics, light tennis, etc...
- Higher level activities at 16 weeks

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