Kansas City Orthopedic Alliance

H. Scott Ellsworth, MD

Rehabilitation Protocol: Nonoperative Shoulder Dislocation

Phase I (0-4 weeks)

- AAROM with wand to tolerance
- Begin IR and ER at side. Progress to 30 degrees, then 60 degrees, then 90 degrees AB as pain subsides.
- Submax isometrics for all shoulder musculature
- Gentle joint mobs and PROM

Phase II (4-8 weeks)

- Isotonic strengthening of rotator cuff, scapular stabilizers, deltoid, biceps, triceps
- Rhythmic stabilization
 - o Basic
 - o Intermediate
 - o Advanced

Phase III (8-12 weeks)

- Continue to progress previous isotonic exercises
- Begin dynamic stabilization
 - o Basic
 - o Intermediate
 - o Advanced
- Introduce basic plyometrics
- * In athletes, begin to work ER/IR in 90 degrees AB

Phase IV (Return to activity)

- Continue previous isotonic strengthening program
- Advance plyometrics
- Instruct in maintenance program prior to discharge

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