

Non-Operative Shoulder Dislocation Rehab Protocol

The surgeon must specify on the referral any specific recommendations or deviations outside this protocol.

Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV
Week 0-4	Week 4-8	Week 8-12	Weeks 12+
General Goals:	General Goals:	General Goals:	General Goals:
-Re-establish full motion	-Increase dynamic stability	-Increase neuromuscular control	-Progressively increase activities
-Slow muscular atrophy	-Increase strength	(especially in apprehension	for full functional return
-Decrease pain and inflammation	-Maintain full motion	position)	
-Allow capsular healing		-Progress dynamic stability	Clinical Implications:
	Clinical Implications:	-Increase overall strength	Week 16-26:
First time Dislocators: May be	-Isotonic strengthening of rotator		-Continue previous isotonic
immobilized for 4-6 weeks (ortho	cuff, scapular stabilizers, deltoid,	Clinical Implications:	strengthening program
discretion) before starting PT	biceps, triceps	-Continue to progress isotonic	-Advance plyometrics
Recurrent Dislocators: PT can	-Rhythmic stabilization	exercises	-Instruct in maintenance program
begin immediately	progressing from basic to	-Begin dynamic stabilization	prior to discharge
	intermediate and then advanced	progressing from basic to	
Clinical Implications:		intermediate and then advanced	
-AAROM with wand to tolerance		-Introduce basic plyometrics	
-Begin IR/ER at side, progress to		**In athletes, begin to work IR/ER	
30°, 60° then 90° ABD as pain subsides		in 90° ABD	
-Submax isometrics for all			
shoulder musculature			
-Gentle joint mobs and PROM			
-Modalities PRN (ice, IFC-Estim,			
etc) to decrease pain and			
inflammation			