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Post-Operative Rehabilitation Guidelines for Shoulder Anterior Stabilization

Weeks 0-3:

- Abduction Sling at all times
- Grip strengthening
- Elbow/ wrist ROM only, no resisted elbow flexion

Weeks 3-6:

- Restrict to FF 90°/ER to 45°/ Extension to 20°
- Begin PROM- Codman's, posterior capsule mobilizations
- Avoid anterior capsule stretching and extension
- Heat before treatment, ice after treatment per therapist's discretion
- D/C sling 5-6 weeks

Weeks 6-12:

- Begin active/active assistive ROM, PROM to tolerance
- Advance strengthening as tolerated at 8 weeks: isometrics → bands → light weights (1-5 lbs); 8-12 reps/2-3 sets per rotator cuff, deltoid, and scapular stabilizers
- Only do strengthening 3x/week to avoid rotator cuff tendonitis
- Closed chain exercises
- Goals: full extension rotation, 135°flexion, 120°abduction

Months 3-12:

- Advance to full ROM as tolerated
- Begin eccentrically resisted motions, plyometrics (ex. Weighted ball toss), proprioception (es. body blade)
- Begin running and cycling at 12 weeks
- Begin sports related rehab at 3 months, including advanced conditioning
- Return to throwing at 4 1/2 months
- MMI is usually at 12 months post-op