

# ARTHROSCOPIC ELBOW SURGERY: DEBRIDEMENT WITH / WITHOUT SPUR RESECTION WITH / WITHOUT CAPSULAR RELEASE Physical Therapy Protocol

Patient Name:	Date of Surgery:	
Evaluate and Treat		
Provide patient with home program		
Frequency: x/week x weeks		
Phase I: Immediate Motion Phase:		

#### Goals

- Improve/regain of range of motion.
- Retard muscular atrophy.
- Decrease pain/inflammation.

### Day

- Range of motion to tolerance (elbow flexion/extension and supination/pronation).
- Often full elbow extension is not capable due to pain.
- Gentle overpressure into extension.
- Wrist flex/ext exercises.
- Gripping exercises with putty.
- Isometrics for wrist/elbow.
- Compression/ice 4-5 times daily.

### • Day 5-10

- Range of motion ext/flex (at least 20-90).
- Overpressure into extension (4-5 times daily).
- Joint mobilization to re-establish ROM.
- Continue isometrics and gripping exercises.
- Continue use of ice.

#### • Day 11-14

- ROM exercises to tolerance (at least 10-100).
- Overpressure into extension (3-4 times daily).
- Continue joint mobilization techniques.
- Initiate light dumbbell program (PREs).
- Biceps, triceps, wrist flex/ext, sup/pronators.
- Continue use of ice post-exercise.



## **Phase II:** Intermediate Phase Goals ■ Increase range of motion. ■ Improve strength/power/endurance. ■ Initiate functional activities. • Weeks 3 to 4 ■ Full ROM exercises (4-5 times daily). ■ Overpressure into elbow extension. ■ Continue PRE program for elbow and wrist musculature. ■ Initiate shoulder program (Thrower's Ten Shoulder Program). ■ Continue joint mobilization. ■ Continue use of ice post-exercise. · Weeks 4 to 7 Continue all exercises listed above. ■ Initiate light upper body program. ■ Continue use of ice post-exercise. **Phase III:** Advanced Strengthening Program Goals ■ Improve strength/power/endurance. ■ Gradual return to functional activities. Criteria to Enter Phase III ■ Full non-painful ROM. ■ No pain or tenderness. • Weeks 8 to 12 ■ Continue PRE program for elbow and wrist. ■ Continue shoulder program. ■ Continue stretching for elbow/shoulder. ■ Initiate Interval program and gradually return to sporting activities. By signing this referral, I certify that I have examined this patient and physical therapy is medically necessary. This patient \_\_\_\_\_ would \_\_\_\_ would not benefit from social services. Physician Name:

