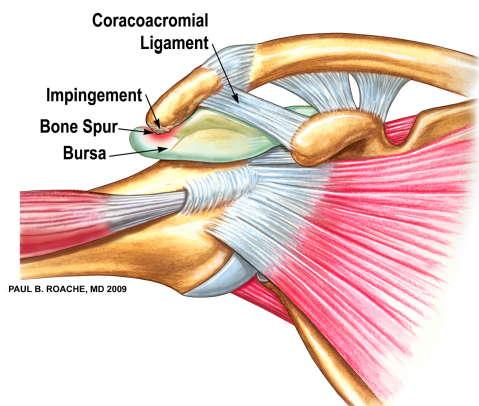
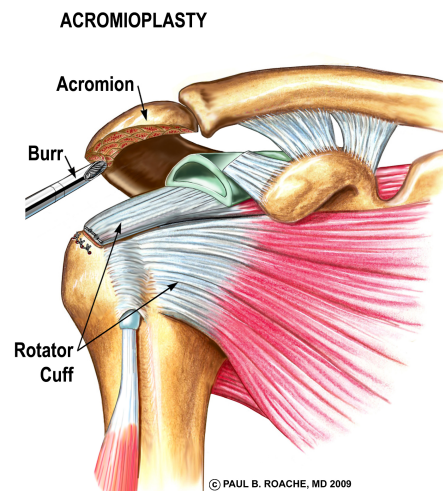


Subacromial Decompression (SAD)



Rehabilitation Protocol Paul B. Roache MD



Phase IA: Home Exercise Program – immediate post-op phase

- Days 2 - 14 after surgery
- First step before starting ROM kit and PT

<u>GOALS:</u>	<u>PRECAUTION:</u>
1. Protect the surgical site 2. Ensure wound healing 3. Diminish pain and inflammation 4. Prevent stiffness and regain motion	1. Do NOT lift objects more than 2 lbs. 2. Do NOT reach behind you. 3. Do NOT use hands to support body weight (Ex. pushing up from chair/bed) 4. Do NOT actively elevate the shoulder/arm

SLING: Use your sling for 1-2 weeks after surgery, then as needed for comfort.

1. You will remove sling 4-5 times a day to do home exercises
2. You will wear sling to sleep to help with comfort and protect shoulder

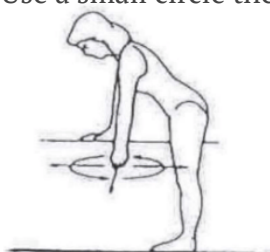
ICE: Use ice machine 20 minutes on, 20 minutes off, repeat.

ACTIVITIES: You may use the hand of the surgery arm in front of your body at waist level. You can bend your elbow and move your wrist to help movement and circulation

1. Home exercise program (HEP) starts day 2: ***pendulum, elbow, and wrist exercises***

Pendulum Exercise

Remove your sling, bend over at the waist and let the arm hang down. Without using your body to initiate movement, swing the arm gently forward, backward, and in a circular motion. Use a small circle the size of a small dinner plate.

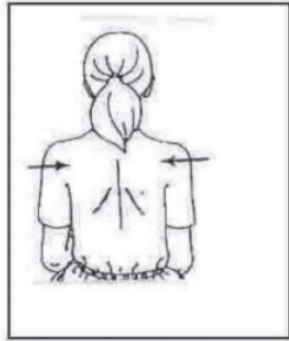


Phase IB: 10 - 14 days postop

- Continue pendulum, elbow, and wrist exercises
- **Add scapula exercises to HEP**

Scapula Retraction/Pinches and Shoulder Shrugs

While standing, pinch shoulder blades backward and together. In the same position, raise shoulder blades to ears for shrugging shoulders.



Pendulum exercises	2 minutes	1-2 sets
Elbow and wrist stretches	5-10 reps	1-2 sets
Scapula retraction*	5-10 reps	1-2 sets
Shoulder shrug*	10-15 reps	1-2 sets

Phase IC: 2-4 weeks postop

- **PHYSICAL THERAPY** will typically start around 3 weeks after surgery.
PT SHOULD NOT HURT. Do not force excessively painful motions
- Stop sling use if not already discontinued.
- **Add forward flexion, table stretch, and external rotation using equipment**

Pulley Passive Forward Flexion

Sit in a chair with your back against the door with the pulley overhead. Use the non-surgery arm to pull down the handle and passively lift the surgery arm overhead. It will be easier to start with the surgery arm bent at the elbow, then transition to straightened out.



Supine Passive Forward Flexion

Lie on your back. Hold the surgery arm at the elbow with the opposite hand and assist lifting the operated arm upward towards overhead. Slowly lower the arm back to the bed. Alternatively, you can also use the shoulder wand as well.

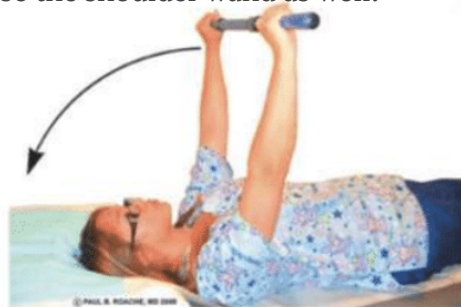
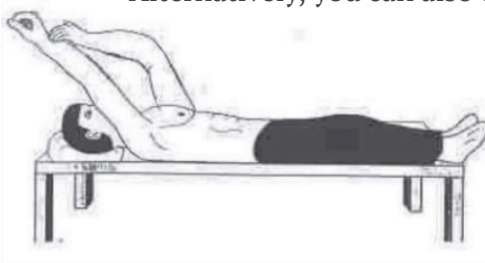


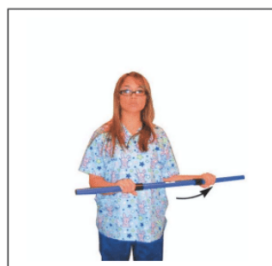
Table Stretch

Place your hands slightly wider than shoulder width on a table. Gently push your palms into the table and lean forward. You can use the chair to slide back and feel the stretch. HOLD THE STRETCH FOR 2 MINUTES. You will feel some stretch discomfort. As you complete more, you will be able to move further and further back and down.



Supine / Standing External Rotation

Lie on your back or stand with your back against the well. Keep the elbow of the surgery arm at your side and bent 90 degrees holding the wand. Using the wand in the non-surgery hand, push towards the surgery arm so it rotates outwards. Hold for 10 seconds, relax, and repeat.



Pendulum exercises	2 minutes	1-2 sets
Elbow and wrist stretches	5-10 reps	1-2 sets
Scapula retraction	5-10 reps	1-2 sets
Shoulder shrug	10-15 reps	1-2 sets
Table stretch in forward flexion @ ~2 weeks	2 minute stretch	1 set
Pulley forward flexion @ ~2 weeks	10-20 reps	1-2 sets
Supine wrist assisted forward flexion @ ~2 weeks	5-10 reps	1-2 sets
Supine or standing external rotation with wand*	10-15 reps	1-2 sets

Phase II: Intermediate Phase = Motion Recovery (4-6 weeks post-op)

Goals:

1. Restore non-painful range of motion
2. Delay muscular atrophy
3. Decrease pain/inflammation
4. Improve postural awareness
5. Minimize stress to healing structure
6. Independent with activities of daily living
7. Prevent muscular inhibition
8. Stop sling use if not already discontinued

ACTIVITIES:

1. You should be weaned out of your sling and no longer using it.
2. Continue to ice on a regular basis
3. It should be ok to drive at this point, unless instructed otherwise.
4. You can actively use the arm for daily living: bathing, dressing, driving, typing, etc.
5. No lifting over 5 lbs.
6. No pushing up from the bed/chair or pulling heavy doors.

Range of Motion:

- PROM (non-forceful flexion abduction)
- Active assisted range of motion (AAROM)
- AROM
- Internal rotation to the back

- Table stretch and pulley motion exercises
- Wand shoulder exercises

Strengthening:

- Isometrics: scapular musculature and deltoid, but no cuff strengthening yet

Manual Treatment:

- Joint mobilization to improve/restore arthrokinematics if indicated
- Joint mobilization for main modulation

Phase III: Active Strengthening Phase (6+ weeks)

Goals

1. Improve strength, power, endurance, and neuromuscular control
2. Prepare patient to throw or perform similar overhead activities
3. Prepare athlete for sport specific activities or worker for work specific functions

PRECAUTION: Caution with lifting and repetitive motions, progress as tolerated.

Criteria to progress to this phase:

1. Full painless ROM
2. No pain or minimal tenderness on exam

Once patient has pain free/minimal pain full ROM and no tenderness, may progress to:

Strengthening:

- Initiate isotonic program with dumbbells
- Strengthen shoulder musculature - isometric, isotonic, proprioceptive neuromuscular facilitation (PNF)
- Strengthen scapulothoracic musculature - isometric, isotonic, PNF
- Initiate upper extremity endurance exercises

Exercises:

- Continue dumbbell strengthening (rotator cuff and deltoid)
- Progress theraband exercises to 90/90 position for IR and ER

Slow/Fast Sets

- Theraband exercises for scapulothoracic musculature and biceps
- Plyometrics for rotator cuff
- PNF diagonal patterns
- Isokinetics
- Continue endurance exercises (UBE)
- Diagonal patterns

Phase IV: Return to Work / Sport (12 weeks+)

Goals:

1. Improve strength, power, and endurance
2. Worker to return to daily work functions; athlete able to throw and/or perform similar overhead activities / specific sport activities;

ACTIVITIES:

1. Caution with lifting and repetitive motions; progress as tolerated
2. Continue rotator cuff specific exercises
3. Advance as tolerated in gym exercises