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Physical Therapy following Scapulothoracic Bursectomy

The following is a basic framework from which to work during rehabilitation following scapulothoracic bursectomy. We encourage patients and therapists to communicate with Dr. Brusalis and his staff with any questions.

Instructions:

Range of motion:

- Sling for comfort only for the first 48 hours after surgery.
- Begin immediate passive and active range of motion without restriction, including scapular protraction and retraction and progress as tolerated

Strengthening:

- Ok to begin strengthening including the scapular stabilizers as soon as full symmetric active range of motion is recovered, which typically occurs at four weeks post-operatively.
- Plan for return to full occupational and athletic activity at six weeks post-operatively.

Limitations:

- No specific limitations

Please provide a home exercise program with a focus on scapular posture and strengthening of the scapular retractors and force couple.

Modalities

Heat before and ice after therapy. Other modalities per therapist

Frequency: 2-3 times/week

Duration: 6 weeks