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# Physical Therapy Prescription for:

label

## Lateral Epicondylitis Debridement & Repair Physical Therapy Protocol

### **Immediate Post-Op (0-2 weeks) – PROTECTION PHASE:**

- ➤ Goals: protect healing tissue, decrease pain/inflammation, retard muscle atrophy, avoid strengthening flexors/extensors of wrist
- ➤ No elbow ROM splint at 70-90°
- ➤ Active assisted ROM fingers/wrist

#### Weeks 3 to 6 – INTERMEDIATE PHASE:

- ➤ Goals: increase elbow range of motion
- > Wrist splint to avoid active wrist extension.
- ➤ Gentle PROM elbow 0-140°
- ➤ Initiate light wrist flexion stretching
- ➤ Initiate active ROM shoulder (emphasize rotator cuff & periscapular)
  - o ER/IR tubing
  - o Light scapular strengthening
  - Lateral raises
- > May incorporate stationary bike for lower extremity with no hand gripping

#### Weeks 7 to 8 – EARLY STRENGTHENING PHASE:

- > Goals: increase strength, power, and endurance. Maintain full elbow ROM
- ➤ D/C wrist splint
- > Progress all shoulder and UE exercises
- Progress elbow strengthening exercises
- > Initiate shoulder external rotation strengthening

#### **Week 10+ – ADVANCED STRENGTHENING PHASE:**

- ➤ Goals: increase strength, sport specific training, return to play
- ➤ Initiate eccentric elbow flexion/extension
- > Continue isotonic program: forearm/wrist
- > Continue shoulder program
- ➤ Initiate 2-hand plyometric drills, advance to 1-hand plyo drills as able (~2 weeks)
- > Emphasis on elbow and wrist strengthening and flexibility exercises
- ➤ Return to full activities ~ 4 months