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## Rehabilitation Protocol Reverse Shoulder Arthroplasty for Fracture

### **Phase I: Protect the Tuberosity (Rotator Cuff) Repair** *(0 to 6 weeks)*

- Staples to be removed at 14 days after surgery
- Sling/immobilizer should be worn AT ALL TIMES other than when showering
- Initiate exercise program 3 times per day immediately:  
    Immediate elbow, forearm and hand AROM
- Pendulums may begin at 2 weeks after instruction by therapist

### **Phase II: PROM/AAROM** *(6 to 8 weeks)*

- Discontinue sling at all times
- Lifting restriction of 2-3 pounds
- Advance AAROM and PROM as tolerated  
    Maintain ER limit of 30 until 8 weeks.  
    Advance forward elevation as tolerated
- Scapular stabilizer strengthening.

### **Phase III: AROM/Strengthening** *(>8 weeks)*

- Advance AROM as tolerated
- Strengthen rotator cuff and shoulder musculature (Isometrics, Theraband, dumbbell, etc). AVOID RESISTED IR OR EXTENSION UNTIL 10 WEEKS.
- Lifting restriction of 10 pounds until 3 months
- Incorporate low level functional activities at 3 months (swimming, water aerobics, light tennis, jogging)
- Start higher level activities at 4 months (tennis, light weight training, and golf).
- Initiate functional progression to sports specific activities at 4 months.