Plymouth TSR Rehabilitation Protocol

| Phase | 1. Protection & Education | |
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| Time Frame | 0 to 3 weeks post procedure | |
| Key Goals | Protect the prosthesis Education of patient regarding post-operative precautions and importance of adherence to and compliance with rehabilitation programme Achieve AAROM up to 90° flexion and 90° elevation in scaption with arm in IR and 0° ER Reduce pain Prevent compensatory/ poor movement patterns | |
| Avoid | Combined abduction and external rotation Resisted internal rotation WB through operated arm when getting out of bed or chair and when using walking aids Lifting with the operated arm Extension, HBB/ IR Forcing any movement Increasing pain | |
| Interventions | Educate patient in relation to timescales, precautions and sling management Introduce AROM elbow, wrist, hand exercises from day 1 Introduce Shoulder Active Assisted Range of Movement (AAROM) Exercises After check X-ray cleared and once nerve block has worn off start AAROM Flexion up to 90°, elevation in scaption with arm in IR up to 90°, ER to 0° Introduce gentle isometrics (<30% MVC) except for internal rotation Introduce simple scapula mobilisation exercises e.g. shoulder shrugs Ensure good scapular/GHJ dissociation Correct any abnormal movement patterns Encourage light functional use of hand in sling | |
| Notes | SLING: Sling to be worn for comfort and to protect the subscapularis repair, usually for 3 weeks until post-operative pain starts to settle. If surgery performed post fracture or there is poor cuff function sling may be worn for up to 6 weeks. Make sure patient is aware of restrictions to ROM described above during this time. Sling can be removed for axillary hygiene & to exercise. Use sling when out in crowds for 4-6 weeks post-operatively. SLEEP POSITION: Patient to sleep supine with operated arm on pillow to prevent the arm falling into hyperextension. Wear sling at night. NERVE BLOCK: Ensure nerve block has worn off before starting AAROM shoulder exercises. CRYOTHERAPY: Consider use of cryotherapy as necessary if tolerated. | |

| Phase | 2. Control through Range | |
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| Time Frame | From 3 weeks post procedure | |
| Criteria to commence stage | Pain controlled No signs of instability Integrity of subscapularis No abnormal movement patterns Good isometric cuff contraction | |
| Key Goals | Regain functional active shoulder ROM Control pain Optimise dynamic control through range Prevent poor movement patterns | |
| Avoid | Stressing the subscapularis repair External rotation beyond 0° Resisted internal rotation WB through the operated arm Combined abduction/external rotation HBB Lifting (limit to weight of cup & essential ADL's such as eating, brushing teeth etc) | |
| Interventions | Wean out of sling Continue AAROM exercises, and progress ROM May commence Active Range of Movement (AROM) exercises: if pain free with good quality movement & no signs of instability Educate patient and promote appropriate shoulder girdle mechanics with AAROM/AROM exercises From 4 weeks if pain controlled & good quality movement may begin HBB (do not force) Encourage functional use of arm at waist height for light tasks Continue gentle isometrics (<30% MVC) to include gentle isometric IR if pain free from 4 weeks | |
| Notes | • SLING: if pain settled discontinue use of sling indoors but can continue to use outdoors in crowds for up to 6 weeks | |

| Phase | 3. Strengthening & Function | |
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| Time Frame | From 6 weeks post procedure | |
| Criteria to commence stage | Pain free, well controlled functional AROM Good cuff & scapular function through available range Good shoulder mechanics/ movement quality No signs of instability Active external rotation control | |
| Key Goals | Subscapularis function Regain functional AROM Regain function specific strength and endurance Increase functional use/ independence Ensure continued good shoulder mechanics/ movement patterns | |
| Avoid | Heavy lifting WB through the operated arm Forced external rotation Forced internal rotation against resistance Forced HBB Combined abduction & external rotation | |
| Interventions | Introduce rotator cuff resistance exercises through range (including subscapularis from 8 weeks) progress as comfort permits Consider deltoid rehab if poor cuff function Increase functional use as able Regain external rotation ROM (do not force) Include kinetic chain exercises if appropriate Functional movement re-education specific to patients demands Educate patient with regards long term management strategies | |
| Notes | See treatment progression below | |

A.CONSIDERATIONS:

| Treatment Progression | Improvements can continue for up to 2 years Rate of progression and outcome can depend on a number of factors including patient age, their pre-op status and cuff status |
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| Return to functional Activity | Patient can consider return to the following activities providing pain has settled and they have good cuff function Swimming: breastroke from 8 weeks Golf: from 3 months Sedentary work from 8 weeks To avoid manual work for 6 months |