# ORIF Medial Epicondyle Drew Ratner MD

Blue Ridge Orthopedics – Easley 309 E 1<sup>st</sup> Ave Easley, SC 29640 (864) 206 - 5905 Drewratnermd@gmail.com

# Phase I – Immediate Post Operative Phase (Weeks 1-4)

# Goals

- Protect healing tissue
- Retard muscular atrophy
- Decrease pain/inflammation

## Week 1-2

- Posterior splint at 90°elbow flexion for 7 days
- Brace: ROM at elbow 30-100 until week 2
- PROM at wrist
- Exercises
  - Gripping
  - o Wrist PROM
  - o Shoulder isometrics (no shoulder ER)
  - o Biceps isometrics
  - o Cryotherapy

# **Week 2-3**

- Brace: ROM Elbow 25 -100
  - o Gradually increase ROM 5° Ext per week and 10° Flexion per week

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- Exercises
  - o Continue all exercises listed above
  - o Elbow ROM
  - o Initiate elbow extension isometrics

# Week 3-4

- Brace: ROM Elbow 15-110
  - Gradually increase ROM 5° Ext per week and 10° Flexion per week
  - Exercises
    - o Continue all exercises listed above
    - o Elbow ROM
    - o Initiate active ROM wrist and elbow

# Phase II Intermediate Phase (Wks 4 - 7)

#### Goals

- Gradual increase to full ROM
- Promote healing of repaired tissue
- Regain and improve muscular strength

#### **Week 4-5**

- Brace: elbow ROM 0-125
- Exercises
  - Begin light resistance exercises (1lb)
  - o Wrist curls, extension, pronation, supination
  - o Elbow ext/flexion
  - Progress Shoulder program to emphasize rotator cuff Strengthening
    - Avoid external rotation until week 6

## Week 5-6

- Discontinue Brace
- ROM elbow 0-135
- Continue all exercises

# Week 6-7

- ROM 0-145 without brace or Full ROM
- Exercises
  - o Progress Elbow strengthening exercises
  - o Initiate shoulder external rotation strengthening

# Week 7-8

- Initiate Throwing Program
- Progress light isotonic program

# Phase III – Advanced Strengthening (Wks 8-13)

#### Goals

- Improve strength/power/endurance
- Maintain full elbow ROM
- Gradual return to functional activities

# Week 8-10

- Exercises
  - Continue all exercises listed above
  - o Initiate plyometric exercise program

# Phase IV – Advanced Strengthening & Endurance (Wks 14-32)

### Goals

- Continue to increase strength, power, and endurance of upper extremity musculature
- Gradual return to activities

#### Week 14

- Exercise: continue strengthening program
  - o Emphasis on elbow and wrist strengthening and flexibility exercises
  - Maintain full elbow ROM

#### Week 16

- Exercises
  - o Initiate interval throwing program
  - o Continue all exercises
  - o Stretch before and after throwing

## Week 22-24

• Progress to phase II Throwing program

#### Week 30

• Progress to competitive throwing