

REHABILITATION PROTOCOL: LATERAL/MEDIAL EPICONDYLAR DEBRIDEMENT AND REPAIR

SAM FULLER, M.D.

Postoperative rehabilitation

3-5 days postop

- Remove post op dressing and fabricate a long arm splint with wrist included, forearm neutral, and elbow at 90°.
- Initiate AROM of the elbow, wrist, and forearm within a pain free range.

4 weeks postop

- Goal is for full elbow ROM. Exercise should feel like a stretch but not cause extreme pain.
- Initiate gentle strengthening with isometrics/concentric/eccentric 1#.
- Educate patient on proper lifting ergonomics using supinated forearms for lifting.
- Pronated lifting should be avoided for lateral repair. Supinated lifting should be avoided for medial repair.

4-6 weeks postop

Discontinue long arm splint on a per patient basis, based on symptoms.

6-8 weeks postop

Return to activities. Initiate work related strengthening.

8-12 weeks postop

Progressive strengthening as tolerated.