North Oaks Orthopaedic Specialty Center

Hammond, LA 70403

Day phone: (985) 230 – 2663

After hours number: (985) 345 - 2700 Fax: (985) 230 - 2665



# **Intermediate Postoperative Shoulder Stretching Exercises:**

- Videos are available on Dr. Witty's website.
- These exercises can be started immediately after surgery to facilitate recovery and work together with your protocol with the therapist.
- Perform exercises 3 times a day for approximately 30 minutes per session. Ice shoulder after exercises and throughout day as instructed.

## **Table Slides:**

- Find a table or counter
- Sit down on chair so that table is approximately the level of the elbow.
- Place injured arm's hand on a small towel to help it slide along the table.
- Place opposite hand on top of the injured hand.
- Using the opposite hand, push the injured hand and arm away from your body.
- Lean forward and use opposite hand to push hand away from body.
- Once you feel a good stretch (avoid significant pain), hold the arm in that position for about 5 seconds and then return to upright and seated position.

- Perform 3 sets of 10 repetitions, 3 times per day





## **Passive Forward Flexion / Elevation:**

- Use a broomstick, golf club, or any other similar device to assist.
- You can perform standing or by lying flat on your back on floor, bed or other surface. At first, you may be more comfortable doing exercise while on back.
- Using uninjured arm, push the injured arm overhead.
- Once you feel a good stretch, hold in position for about 5 seconds and then pull arm back to starting position. You may not be able to get arm completely overhead right away. You will need to work on this every day.
- Perform 3 sets of 10 repetitions, 3 times per day

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## **Passive External Rotation:**

- Use a broomstick, golf club, or any other similar device to assist.
- You can perform standing or by lying flat on your back on floor, bed or other surface. At first, you may be more comfortable doing exercise while on back .
- Keep injured arm's elbow directly against body at the side.
- If you have trouble keeping elbow at the side, place a pillow between your body and elbow and squeeze pillow to body to hold it in place.
- Using uninjured arm, push the injured arm outward rotating at the shoulder.
- Once you feel a good stretch, hold in position for about 5 seconds and then pull arm back to starting position.
- Perform 3 sets of 10 repetitions, 3 times per day





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## **Passive Abduction + External Rotation:**

- Use a broomstick, golf club, or any other similar device to assist.
- Perform this stretch while lying flat on your back on floor, bed or other surface.
- Using uninjured arm, push the injured arm out to the side and rotate outward at the same time.
- Once you feel a good stretch, hold in position for about 5 seconds and then
  pull arm back to starting position. You may not be able to get arm completely
  overhead right away. You will need to work on this every day.
- Perform 3 sets of 10 repetitions, 3 times per day





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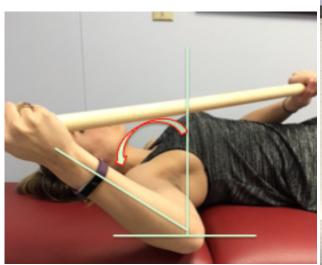
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# **Overhead Stretch:**

- Grasp the injured arm by the hand or wrist with the opposite arm
- Using the uninjured arm, pull the injured arm overhead into the position below
- Hold for about 5 seconds and repeat
- Perform 3 sets of 10 repetitions, 3 times per day

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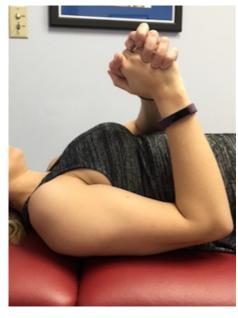
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# **Internal Rotation:**

- Hold the injured arm on the lower end of the pole (left arm in image below)
- Hold the pole with the uninjured arm on the upper end of the pole (right arm in the image below)
- Gently pull with the uninjured arm (right arm below) allowing the uninjured arm to stretch.
- Avoid using muscles of the injured arm to move the injured extremity.

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