

Subacromial Decompression and ACJ resection Protocol

On Discharge from Hospital

Immobiliser (This should be removed within the first 2-3 days ·

Post-op Exercises on discharge

- · Active (assisted) glenohumeral movement in all planes
- · Teach postural awareness and scapular setting

Out patient Physio

- · Begin isometric strengthening (progress using pain & ROM as the limiting factor)
- Rotator cuff strengthening · Address posterior capsular tightness (sleeper stretch and cross-shest adduction)
- · Over zealous physio or repetitive sustained overhead activity could lead to delayed healing & pain
 - · Manual therapy if required to increase range of movement

Milestones

Full active ROM or equivalent to the pre op range 6 Weeks

Full recovery can take 6-9 months.

Expect 80% improvement by 3 months.

Caution Any significant increase in pain or decrease in ROM arrange a clinic appointment for a review.

Return to functional activities

Return to work sedentary job: as tolerated

Manual job: may need to modify activities for 3 months

Driving 1 week

Swimming Breaststroke: as able

Freestyle: 12 weeks

Golf 6 weeks Lifting as able

Racquet sports Avoid repetitive overhead shots for 3 months

