

Conservative Treatment Following Ulnar Collateral Sprains of the Elbow

Immediate Motion Phase (weeks 0 through 2)

Goals: - Increase range of motion

- Promote healing of ulnar collateral ligament
- Retard muscular atrophy
- Decrease pain and inflammation
- 1. ROM:

I.

Brace (optional) non-painful ROM [20-90 degrees] AAROM, PROM elbow and wrist (non-painful range)

2. Exercises:

Isometrics - wrist and elbow musculature

Shoulder strengthening (no ext rotation strengthening)

3. Ice and compression

II. Intermediate Phase (weeks 3 through 6)

Goals: - Increase range of motion

- Improve strength/endurance
- Decrease pain and inflammation
- Promote stability
- 1. ROM:

Gradually increase motion 00 to 135" (increase 100 per week)

2. Exercises:

Initiate Isotonic Exercises wrist curls wrist extensions pronation/supination biceps/triceps dumbbells: external rotation, deltoid, supraspinatus, rhomboids, internal rotation

3. Ice and Compression

III. Advanced Phase (weeks 6 and 7 through 12 and 14)

Criteria to Progress

- 1. Full range of motion
- 2. No pain or tenderness
- 3. No increase in laxity
 - 4. Strength 4/5 of elbow flexor/extensor

Goals: - Increase strength, power and endurance

- Improve neuromuscular control
- Initiate high speed exercise drills
- 1. Exercises:

Initiate exercise tubing, shoulder program: Throwers ten program Biceps/triceps program Supination/pronation Wrist extension/flexion Plyometrics throwing drills

IV. Return to Activity Phase (week 12 through 14)

Criteria to Progress to Return to Throwing:

- 1. Full non-painful ROM
- 2. No Increase in laxity
- 3. Isokinetic test fulfills criteria
- 4. Satisfactory clinical exam
- 1. Exercises:

Initiate interval throwing Continue throwers ten program Continue plyometrics;