



1st Dorsal Compartment Release

Dr. Staiger

NOTE: Therapy not routinely scheduled post-op.

*If needed schedule OT same day as doctor.

Time Frame	Treatment	Goals
Phase I	Evaluate and Treat.	Edema control
Post-Op Day 10-14	 Instruct in edema management. 	Scar management
	 Instruct in active wrist flexion/extension, ulnar/radial deviation exercises. 	Pain management
	 Instruct in general tendon gliding exercises. 	
	 Instruct in active thumb exercises especially palmar 	
	abduction and extension for tendon gliding under scar.	
	 Initiate passive range of motion as needed. 	
	 Provided there is minimal pain and swelling. 	
	 Instruct in scar management techniques (to begin once 	
	incision is healed).	
	 Issue scar pad (to be worn once incision is healed). 	
Phase II	 Assess for Radial Nerve Irritability and if present: 	Continued edema,
3 Weeks	 May use modalities as indicated (ultrasound 	scar, and pain
	typically not done until 4 weeks post-op). May	management
	include Ketoprofen, Dexamethasone, or Potassium	
	Iodide as indicated at 4 weeks.	
	 Continue with previously listed exercises. 	
Phase III	Instruct in home program:	Functional ROM
4-6 Weeks	\circ strengthening exercises for wrist, thumb, and grip.	Progression of HEP