



Lateral Elbow Debridement/Drilling

Dr. Staiger

*Schedule OT same day as doctor unless with CTR then 1-3 days post-op.

**Restriction: No lifting greater than 15 pounds for 8 weeks and limit firm/heavy grasping.

Time Frame	Treatment	Goals
Phase I	Evaluate and Treat.	Edema control
Post-Op Day 1-3	 Dressing change and check for signs/symptoms of infection. 	 Incision care
Only if with Carpal	 Fabricate long arm orthosis with wrist included. 	 Pain management
Tunnel Release	 Wear orthosis at all times other than showering. 	 Scar management
	 Tell client that in 4 weeks he/she may remove 	
	orthosis for exercises.	
	 Instruct edema management technique. 	
	 Issue finger tendon glides but hold off on median nerve 	
	glides until 4 weeks post-op.	
Phase I	• Complete above listed items, if this is the first post-op visit.	Edema control
Day 10-14	 Instruct in scar management techniques (to begin once 	Incision care
	incision is healed).	Pain management
	 Issue scar pad (to be worn once incision is healed). 	Scar management
Phase II	• Instruct gentle active range of motion digits, wrist, forearm,	ROM
4 Weeks	and elbow.	Continued edema
	Issue tennis elbow strap.	control and pain and
	 Wear tennis elbow strap while completing active 	scar management
	range of motion exercises or when not wearing the	
	long arm orthosis.	
	 May begin weaning out of orthosis during the day, wearing 	
	the forearm strap instead.	
	 Wear orthosis at night. 	
	 Review edema management techniques. 	
	 May use modalities as indicated. 	
	 Modalities may include Ketoprofen, Dexamethasone, 	
	or Potassium lodide as indicated.	
	 Begin myofascial techniques as indicated. 	
Phase III	Instruct client in light strengthening exercises beginning with	• PREs
6-8 Weeks	grip strengthening exercises and progressing with ECRL, BR,	
Depending on pain	Supinator and Pronator PRE's. Hold off with strengthening	
level	exercises or progress slowly if client is still experiencing pain	
	symptoms.	
	 Begin eccentric muscle exercises if no pain. 	