Rehabilitation and Expectations Following Shoulder Arthroplasty

ReeAnn Sadowsky, DPT



Incidence of Shoulder Arthroplasty

- Incidence of TSA has significantly increased in the last 10 years across all ages and sexes in the US
 - Best et. al
- TSA
 - 2012: 29,685
 - 2017: 40,665

• RTSA

- 2012: 22,835
- 2017: 62,705



TOTAL SHOULDER ARTHROPLASTY (TSA)

TSA INDICATIONS

- Osteoarthritis
- Osteonecrosis
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Post-traumatic arthritis
- Proximal humerus fractures
- Cuff deficiency/arthropathy

<u>*Requires an intact or</u> <u>reparable rotator cuff</u>*



TSA GOALS

- Reduce pain
- Return to moderate functional activities around 3-4 months
- Return to higher level activities around 4-6 months
- ROM goals:
 - FLEXION- 140-160°
 - ER- 60-80°
 - FUNCTIONAL IR- L1

Total Shoulder Arthroplasty Rehabilitation

TSA Precautions

Immobilizer x 4-6 weeks

• Protect the subscapularis

- Avoid resisted IR x 8-10 weeks
- Caution with ER and Extension ROM

• Be aware of concomitant soft tissue/bony involvement



TSA 0-1 Week

- PROM 5-6x/day
 - Flexion and abduction to 90°
 - ER to neutral
- Active elbow, wrist, and hand exercises
- Pain/edema reduction



TSA 0-1 Week













TSA 1-4 weeks

- Continue PROM
- Limit ER to around 30°
 - Slowly progress ER in abducted position
 - 1-2 weeks: 0° abduction
 - 2-4 weeks: 30-45° abduction
- Isometrics: 3 weeks
 - Caution with IR
- AAROM: 4 weeks
 - Supine cane assisted flexion
 - Pulley





4 Week Goals

- 120° passive forward flexion
- ER to at least 30° in the scaption plane
- 90° abduction

TSA 4-6 Weeks

- Continue with PROM
- Progress ER ROM slowly
- AAROM moving to seated/standing position
 - Gravity assisted → Gravity resisted
- Rhythmic stabilization drills







TSA 6-8 Weeks

- Begin AROM
 - Supine/side-lying \rightarrow Sitting/standing
 - Don't push through "shrug • sign"
- 8 Weeks: Begin light isotonic strengthening
 - External rotators
 - Deltoid \bullet
 - Scapular stabilizers
 - Caution with IR \bullet







VERTICAL Unsupported long lever arm



8 Week Goals

- 140-160° passive forward flexion
- 60° ER in scaption plane
- Active elevation to at least shoulder height without shrug sign

TSA 10-12+ Weeks

- Restore full PROM
- Continue to progress AROM and dynamic strength program
- Discharge with HEP











TSA OUTCOMES

- Dependent on underlying pathology and prior level of function
 - Patient satisfaction rate around 90-95%
- 75-90% reported a return to sport activities
 - Fishing
 - Swimming
 - Golf
 - Bowling
 - Softball



Reverse Total Shoulder Arthroplasty (RTSA)

RTSA INDICATIONS

- Utilized when the rotator cuff is irreparable or inadequate
- Osteoarthritis
- Irreparable rotator cuff damage
- Complex fractures
- Revision of a previously failed conventional TSA



RTSA GOALS

- Reduce pain
- Restore functional ROM for light to moderate activities
- ROM:
 - Flexion- 120-130°
 - ER- 30-45° in scaption plane
 - Functional IR- L5



Reverse Total Shoulder Arthroplasty Rehabilitation

RTSA Precautions

- Immobilizer x 4 weeks
- Caution



- Combined adduction, internal rotation, and extension X 6-8 weeks
 - Reaching behind the back
- Extension
- Combined ER, extension, and abduction
- Be aware of soft tissue and/or bony involvement
 - Deltoid or subscapularis repair?
- No weight bearing through arm x 6-8 weeks

RTSA 0-1 Week

• PROM

- Flexion and abduction to 90°
- ER to neutral
- AROM- elbow, hand, wrist, cervical spine







RTSA 1-4 Weeks

• Progress PROM as tolerated

- ER no > than 20-30°
- 3 Weeks:
 - Begin supine AAROM
 - Pulley
 - Isometrics
 - Caution with deltoid or subscapularis repairs

RTSA 1-4 Weeks



Isometric shoulder abduction



Isometric shoulder external rotation



Isometric shoulder flexion



Isometric shoulder extension





RTSA 4-6 Weeks

- Progress PROM and AAROM
 - AAROM moving to seated/standing position
- Begin resisted elbow and wrist exercises
- Rhythmic stabilization drills
- AROM
 - Be aware of soft tissue repairs
 - Supine \rightarrow Standing

RTSA 6-8 Weeks

Focus on achieving functional ROM

- 120-130° forward flexion
- 30-45° ER in scaption
- 110-120° abduction/scaption
- Improve anti-gravity AROM
 - Reduce shrug sign
 - Enhance deltoid function and scapular mobility
- Initiate IR behind the back

RTSA 8-10 Weeks

• Begin isotonic strengthening

- Focus on deltoid, scapular stabilizers, and RC
 - Anterior, middle, and posterior deltoid
 - External rotation
 - Internal rotation
 - *Caution with subscapularis repair*









RTSA 10-12+ Weeks

- Gradual return to activities
- Continue to focus on dynamic strengthening and functional ROM
- Discharge with HEP
 - Continue for at least 1 year post-op







RTSA OUTCOMES

- Dependent on underlying pathology and prior level of function
 - Patient satisfaction rate around 90%
- Less ROM and functional scores as compared to TSA
 - 75-85% of patients reported a return to sport activities
 - Biking
 - Fishing
 - Dancing
 - Swimming
 - Golf



Conclusions

- Protect joint structures for the first 6 weeks
 - Gentle PROM \rightarrow AAROM \rightarrow AROM
- Read the operative report
 - Subscap repair?
 - Deltoid repair?
 - RC repair?
 - Fracture?
- Dynamic Strengthening around 8-10 weeks P/O
 - TSA: Focus is on RC + Deltoid + Scapular stabilizers
 - RTSA: Focus is on Deltoid + Scapular stabilizers + remaining RC
- Know the expectations for each procedure
 - Patient expectations are directly correlated to reported satisfaction!

References

Best MJ, Aziz KT, Wilckens JH, McFarland EG, Srikumaran U. Increasing incidence of primary reverse and anatomic total shoulder arthroplasty in the United States. Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery. 2021;30(5):1159-1166.

Mayfield CK, Korber SS, Hwang NM, Bolia IK, Gamradt SC, Weber AE, Liu JN, Petrigliano FA. Volume, indications, and number of surgeons performing reverse total shoulder arthroplasty continue to expand: a nationwide cohort analysis from 2016-2020. JSES Int. 2023 May 25;7(5):827-834. doi: 10.1016/j.jseint.2023.05.002. PMID: 37719807; PMCID: PMC10499840.

Edwards PK, Ebert JR, Littlewood C, Ackland T, Wang A. Effectiveness of formal physical therapy following total shoulder arthroplasty: A systematic review. Shoulder Elbow. 2020 Apr;12(2):136-143. doi: 10.1177/1758573218812038. Epub 2018 Nov 25. PMID: 32313563; PMCID: PMC7153202.

Bullock GS, Garrigues GE, Ledbetter L, Kennedy J. A systematic review of proposed rehabilitation guidelines following anatomic and reverse total shoulder arthroplasty. Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy. 2019;49(5):337-346.

Nolan BM, Ankerson E, Wiater JM. Reverse total shoulder arthroplasty improves function in cuff tear arthropathy. Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research. 2011 Sep;469(9):2476-2482.

Kasten P, Maier M, Wendy P, Rettig O, Raiss P, Wolf S, Loew M. Can shoulder arthroplasty restore the range of motion in activities of daily living? A prospective 3D video motion analysis study. Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery. 2010;19(2):59-65.

Mueller M, Hoy G. Soft tissue balancing in total shoulder replacement. Current Reviews in Musculoskeletal Medicine. 2014 Mar;7(1):16-21.

Magnussen RA, Mallon WJ, Willems WJ, Moorman CT. Long-term activity restrictions after shoulder arthroplasty: an international survey of experienced shoulder surgeons. Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery. 2011 Mar; 20(2):281-289.

Engel NM, Holschen M, Schorn D, Witt KA, Steinbeck J. Results after primary reverse shoulder arthroplasty with and without subscapularis repair: a prospective randomized trial. Archives of Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgery. 2021.

Sanchez-Sotelo J. Total shoulder arthroplasty. Open Orthopaedic Journal. 2011 Mar; 16(5):106-114.

Kiet TK, Feeley BT, Naimark M, Gaiu T, Hall SL, Chung TT, Ma B. Outcomes after shoulder replacement: a comparison between reverse and anatomic total shoulder arthroplasty. Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery. 2015; 24:179-185.

Boudreau S, Boudreau E, Higgins LD, Wilcox RB. Rehabilitation following reverse total shoulder arthroplasty. Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy. 2007;37(12):734-743.