

"Older" Shoulders

Rotator Cuff Disease

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Anatomy





Anatomy



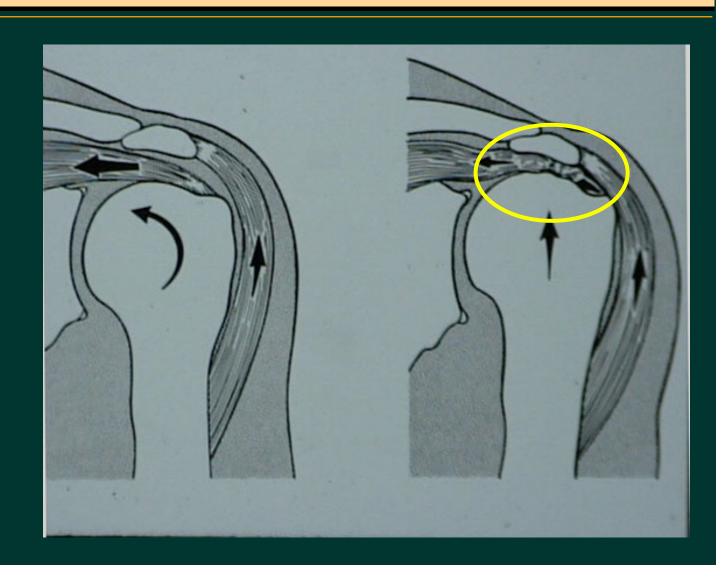


Definition

Pathologic changes of the rotator cuff tendons



Progressive thinning and weakening with 1 age





Cause
Trauma
Degenerative



Types

Tendinitis
Partial thickness tear
Full thickness tear



Partial
Thickness
Tear





Complaints

Pain, ↓ sleep, overhead, weakness, stiffness, catching, popping



History
Acute (traumatic)
vs.
Chronic (insidious)



Exam

Atrophy, ecchymosis, weakness, subacromial roughness, pain, positive injection test



Atrophy



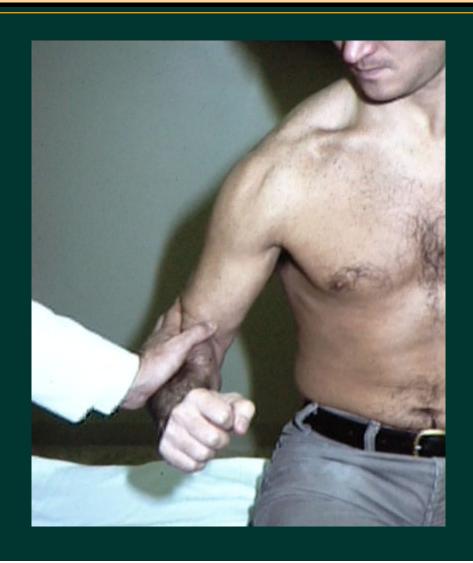


Subacromial Roughness



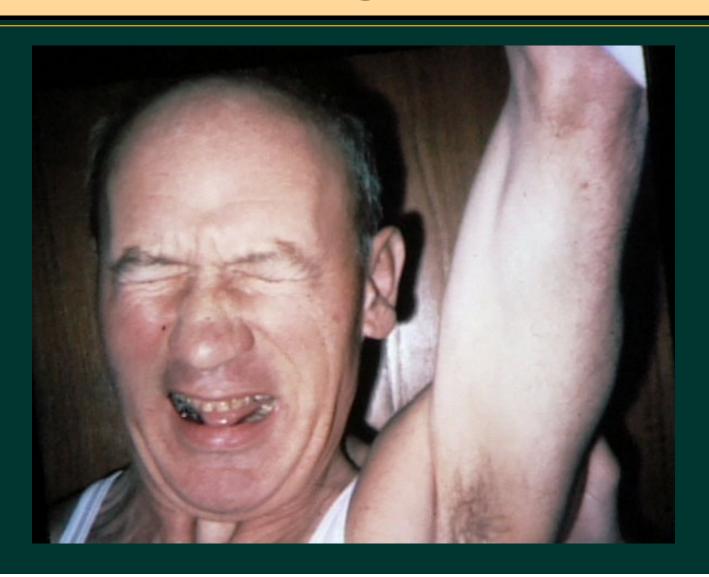


Weakness





Pain





Differential Diagnosis

- Acromioclavicular arthritis
- Frozen shoulder
- Glenohumeral arthritis
- Herniated cervical disc
- Suprascapular nerve entrapment
- Fracture (Skier's)



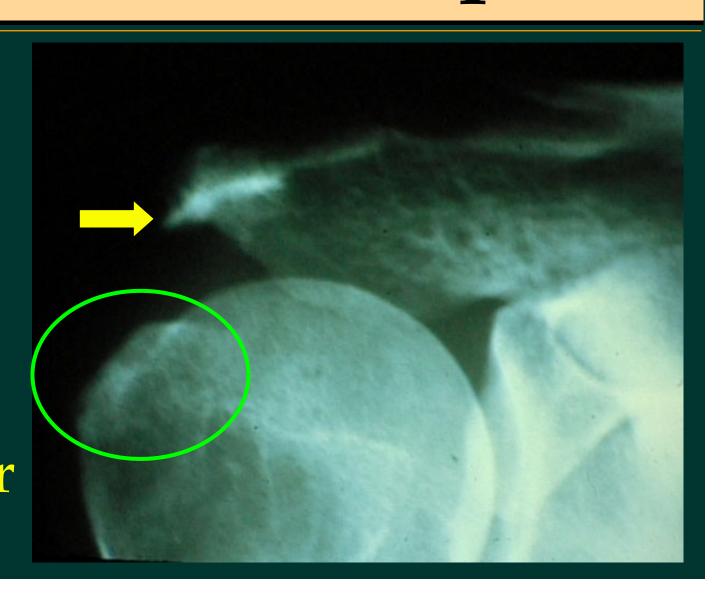
X-rays

Greater tuberosity reactive changes, acromial sourcil/spur, high-riding humeral head

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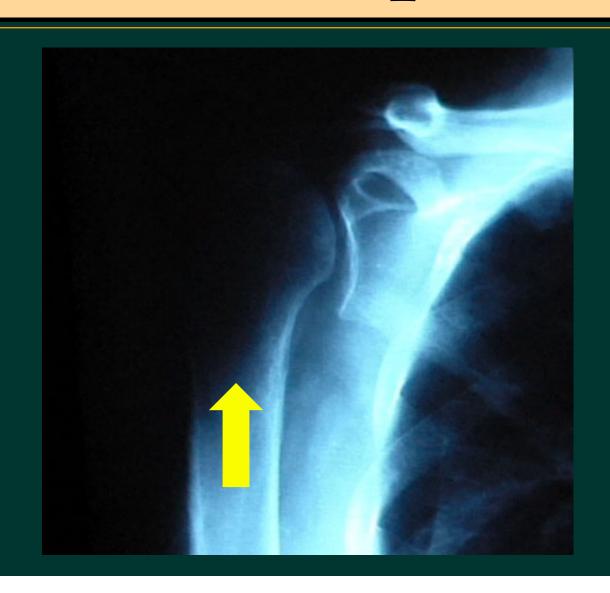


Greater tuberosity reactive changes, acromial sourcil/spur





High-riding humeral head



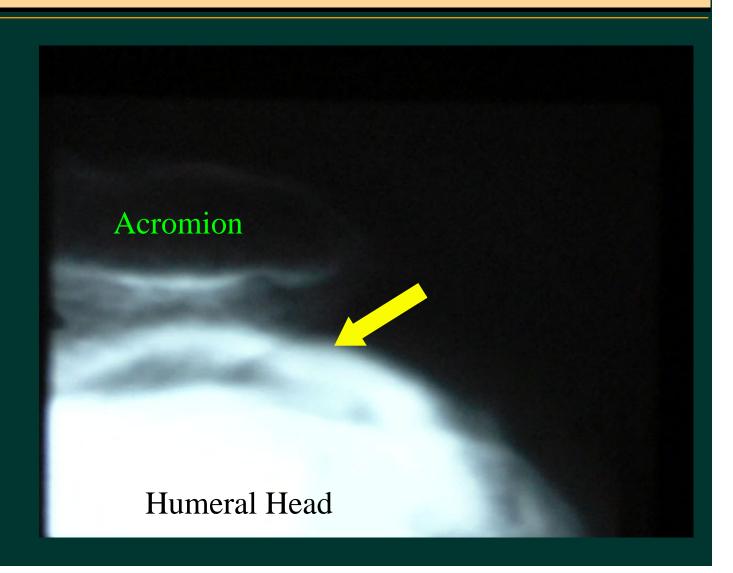


Other Imaging Studies

Arthrogram Ultrasound MRI



Positive arthrogram with dye leakage





Ambulatory Treatment

Conservative - rest, ROM, NSAID,s, injection (?), time, avoidance, modifications, education, compensatory muscle strengthening, progressive resumption of activities (except acute tear in young/active?)



Ambulatory Treatment

Progressive Range of Motion

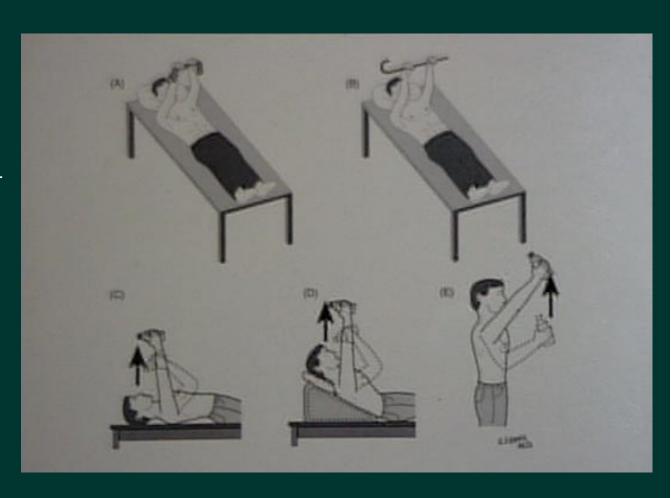


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Ambulatory Treatment

Compensatory Muscle Strengthening





Outcome

Most do well with appropriate conservative management



Wheelchair/Crutch Ambulators

Difficult, rehab, rehab, rehab, rarely if ever repair



After dislocation in > 40 y.o. Beware potential for RCT, image those doing poorly with rehab EARLY



Calcific Tendinitis



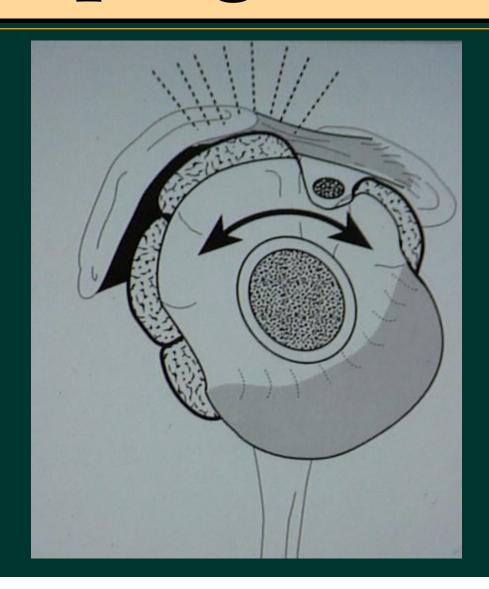


Calcific Tendinitis

- Insidious onset...PAIN!
- Try conservative approach
- May need to remove or decompress if symptoms persist



"Impingement"





"Impingement"

Question what it is...Triad!

- posterior capsular tightness
 - subacromial bursitis
- cuff pathology (-itis vs. tear)



When to Refer

Acute

Weakness, bruising, positive study, especially young/active pts.



When to Refer

Chronic

After several months, positive study, failure of conservative care, continued/worsening pain & dysfunction, difficulty sleeping



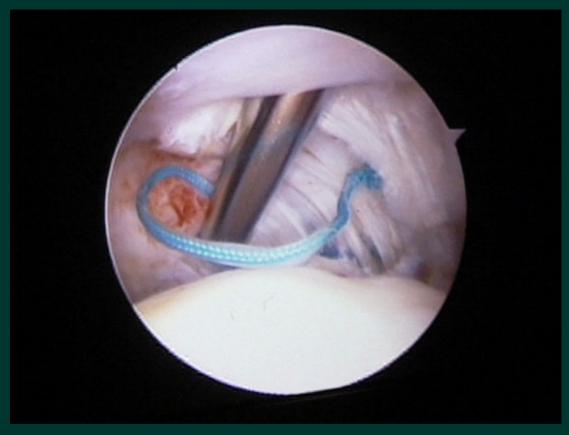
How We Treat It

- More Rehab/Avoidance/Modification
- Meds/Injections
- Explanation of risks/benefits
- •Surgery arthroscopic or open subacromial smoothing/debridement vs. repair



How We Treat It

RCT ≠ RCR





How We Treat It

Prognostic indicators for RCR Failure

 \uparrow Age (> 70)

1 Chronicity

Atraumatic

1 Injections

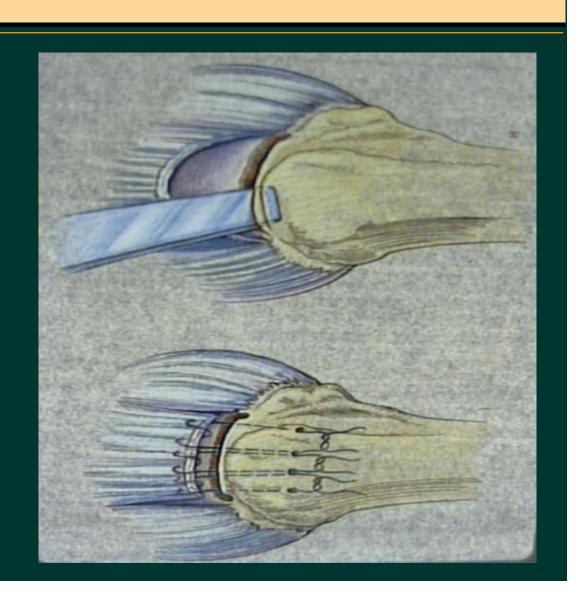
†# tendons

Smoking



How We Treat It

Open rotator cuff repair





Outcome

Most do well extremely well with near complete recovery of function and relief of pain



Outcome





Rotator Cuff Tears

Summary

- VERY common problem
 - Can be acute or chronic
- Many will improve adequately with conservative care
 - Some require surgery



Rotator Cuff Tears

Summary

- In young/active/traumatic tears...think early referral
- In elderly/sedentary/insidious tears...think rehab, refer prn



"Older" Shoulders

Stiffness



Capsular Laxity



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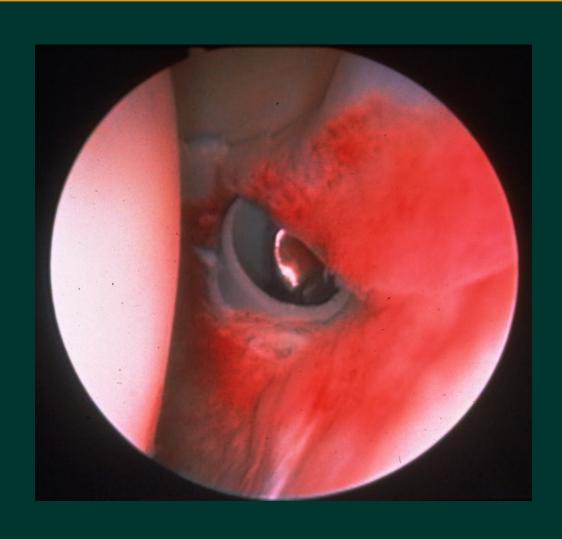
"Frozen Shoulder"

 Definition - Symptomatic limitation of passive motion in a shoulder

 Cause - Stiffening of joint capsule after inflammation

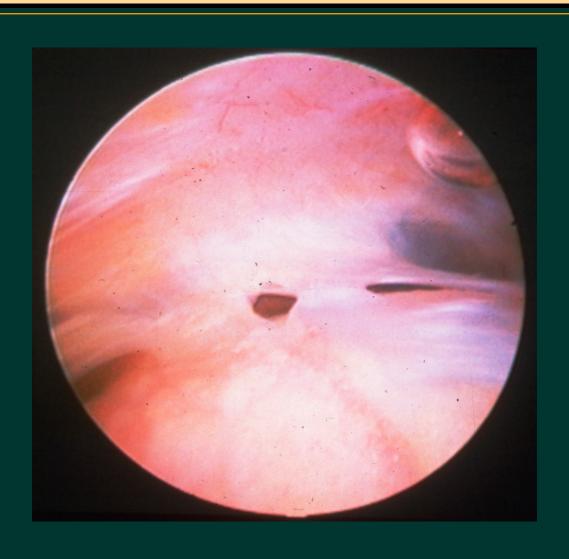


Inflammation





Adhesions





Actually...

Four Types (etiologies) of Stiffness

Idiopathic Frozen Shoulder Diabetic Stiff Shoulder Post-Traumatic Stiff Shoulder Post-Surgical Stiff Shoulder



Capsular Contracture



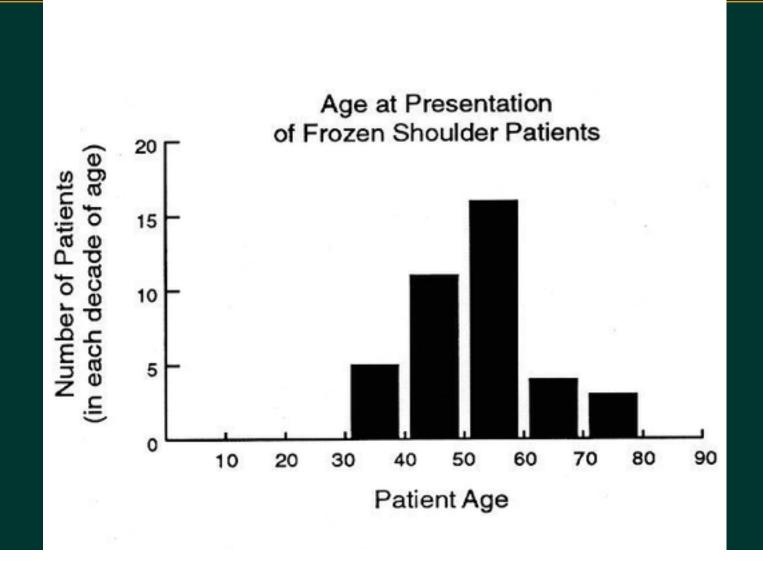


How to Recognize

- History loss of comfort & function (inability to sleep comfortably)
- Exam limited range of flexion, external rotation, internal rotation and/or cross body motion
- X-rays normal

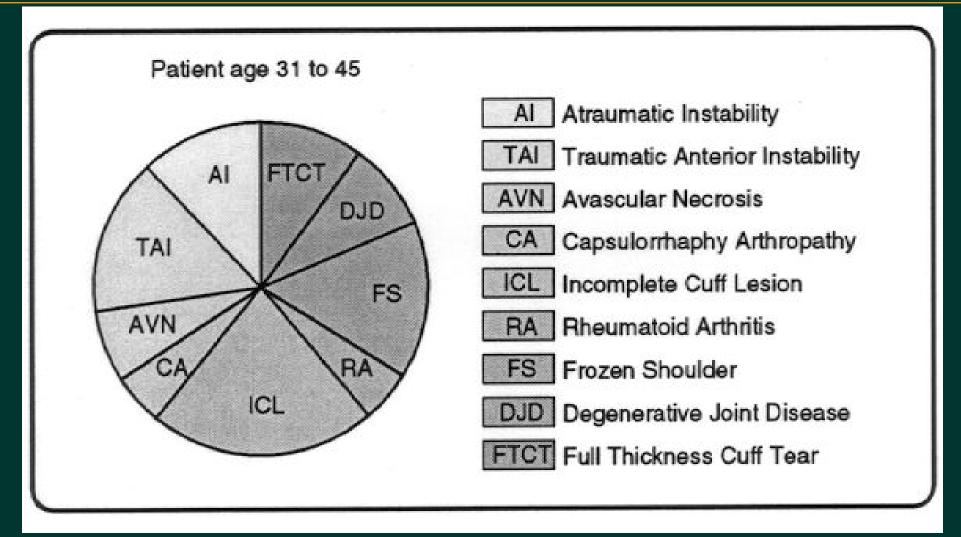


Peak age = 55 years



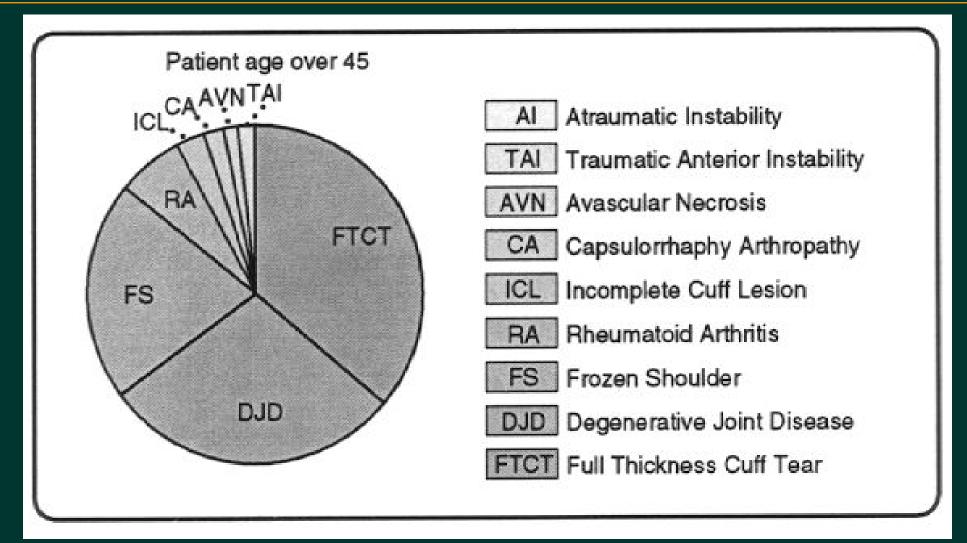


Top 3 in middle age



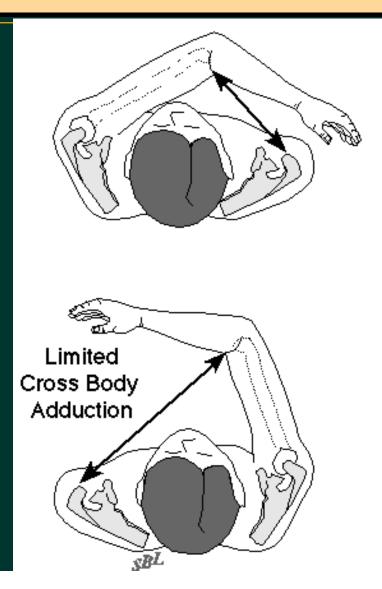


Top three > 45 years



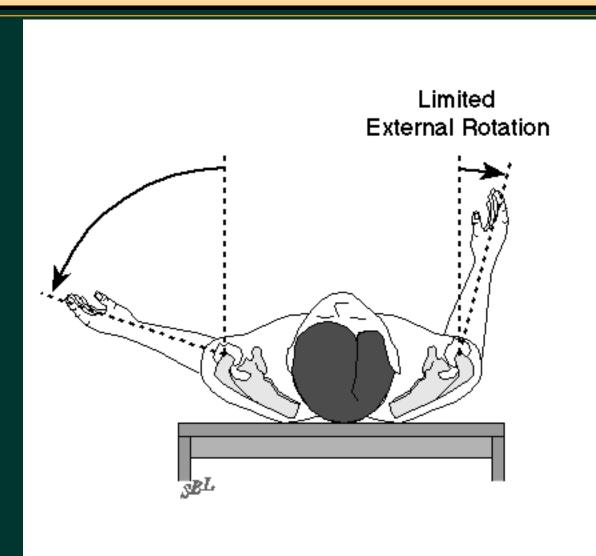


Asymmetrical range



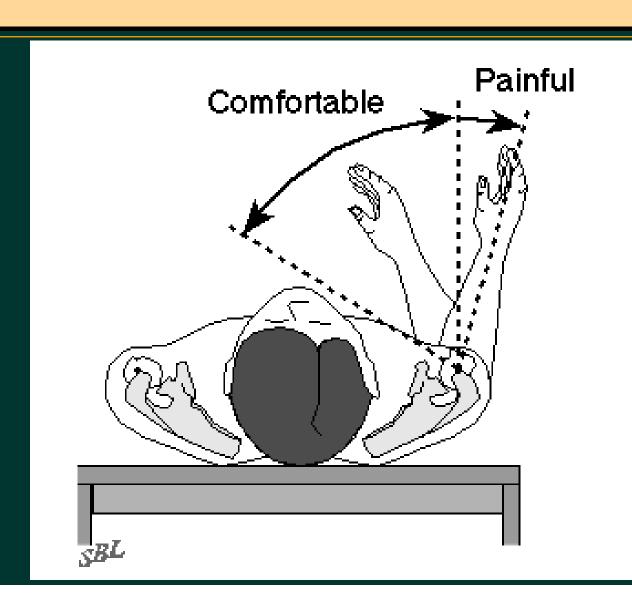


Asymmetrical Range



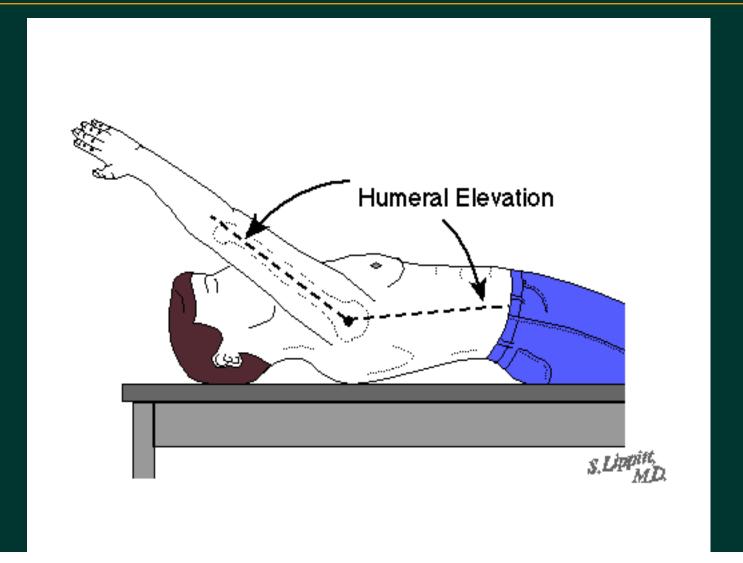


Pain at the extreme



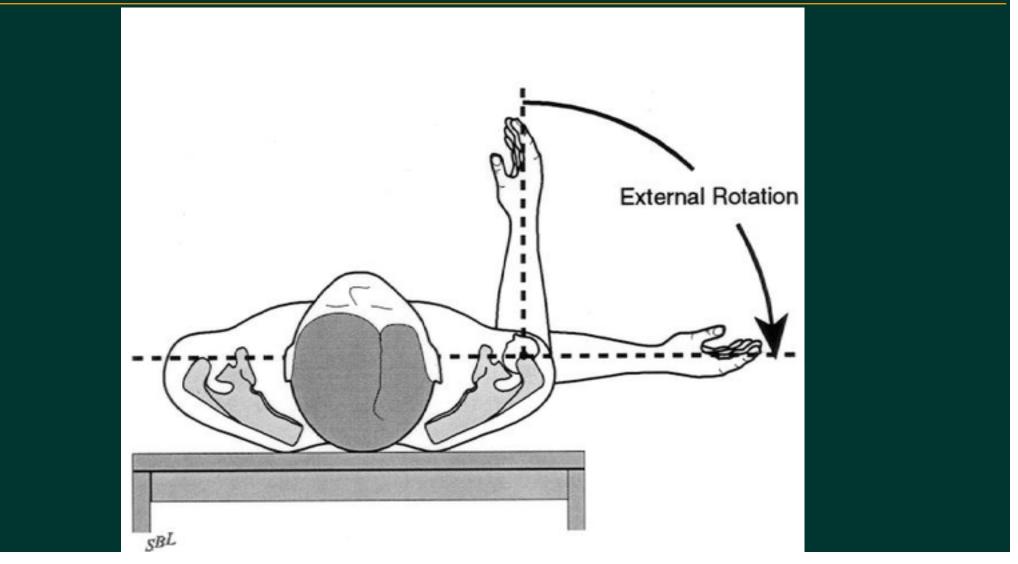


Flexion



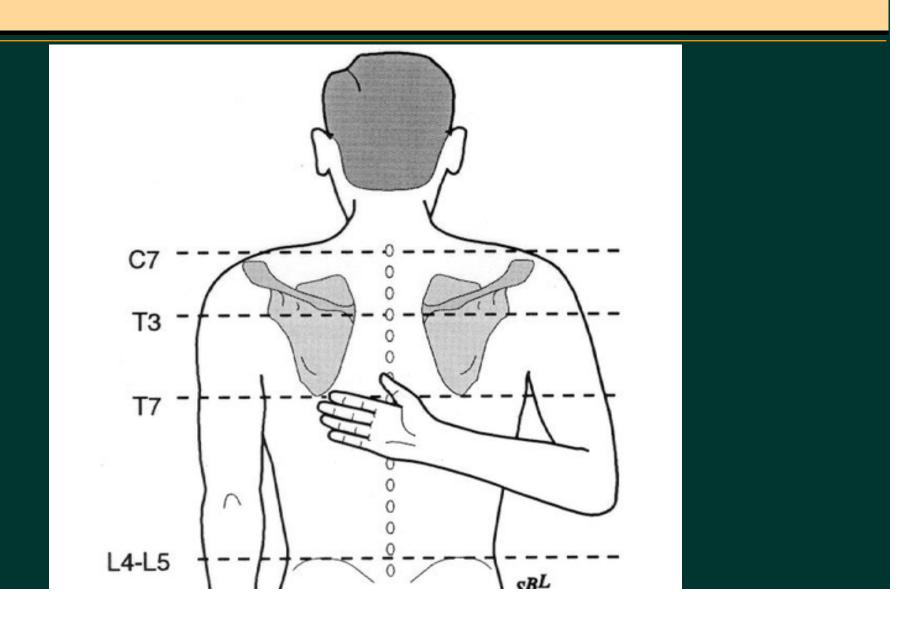


External Rotation



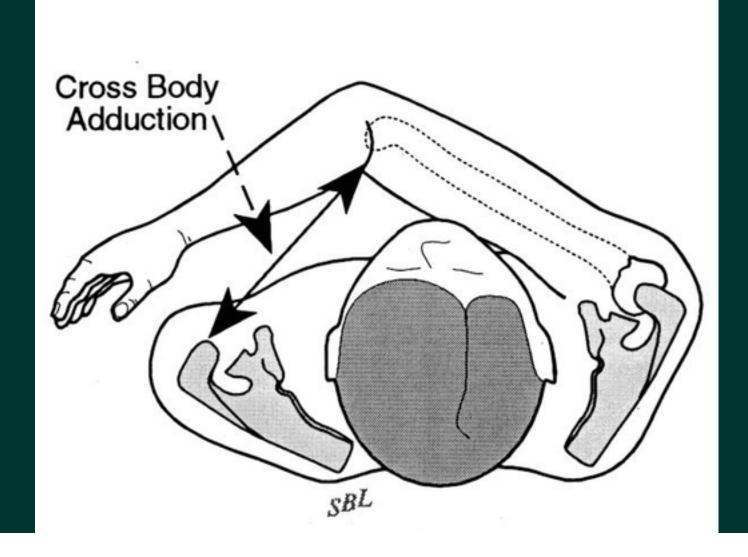


Internal rotation





Cross body



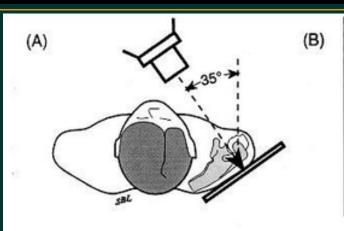


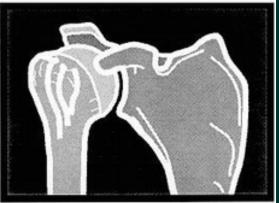
How to Work Up

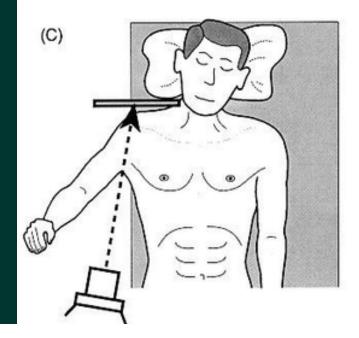
- Rule out predisposing factors
 - -Diabetes
 - -Cervical spondylosis
 - -Underlying shoulder pathology e.g.: tumor
 - -Previous trauma or surgery



Good quality films











Exclude

- Fractures/Dislocations
 - Tumors
 - Bony Abnormalities
 - Arthritis

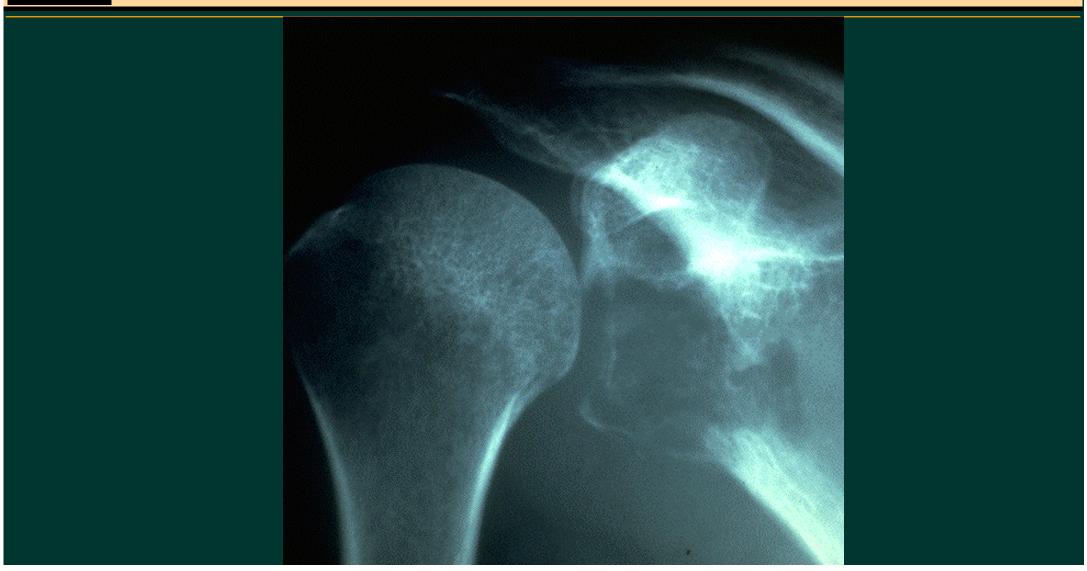


Posterior Fx/Dislocation



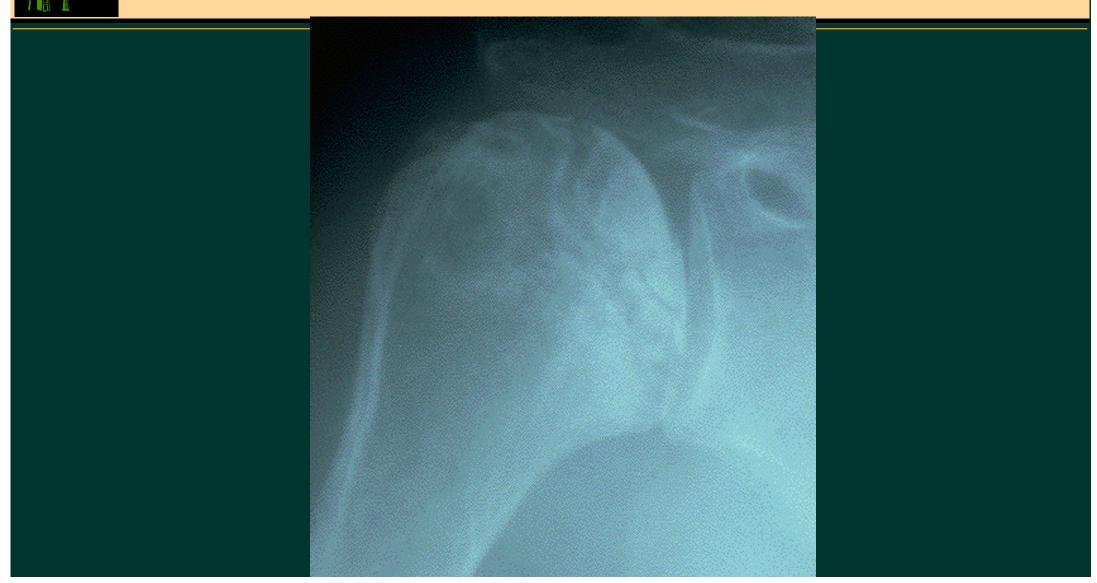


Tumor



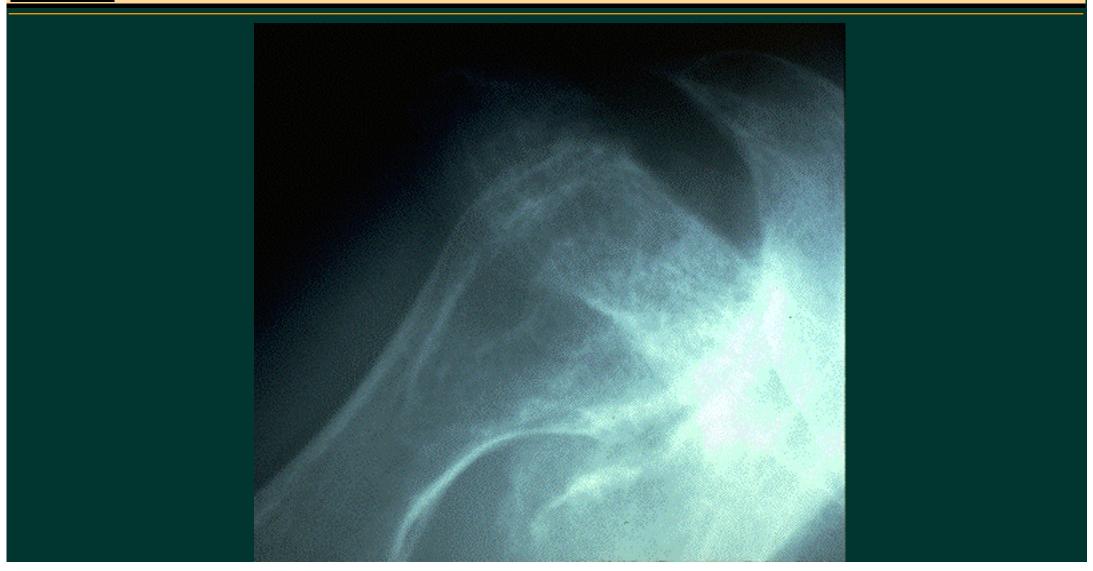


Avascular Necrosis





Rheumatoid Arthritis





mbulatory Management

Treat the PAIN!!!

NSAID's Injections

Acupuncture

(ANYTHING But Narcotics)



mbulatory Management

Avoid Overuse and Bothersome Activities!!!

Rest and Time!

No Strengthening!!!

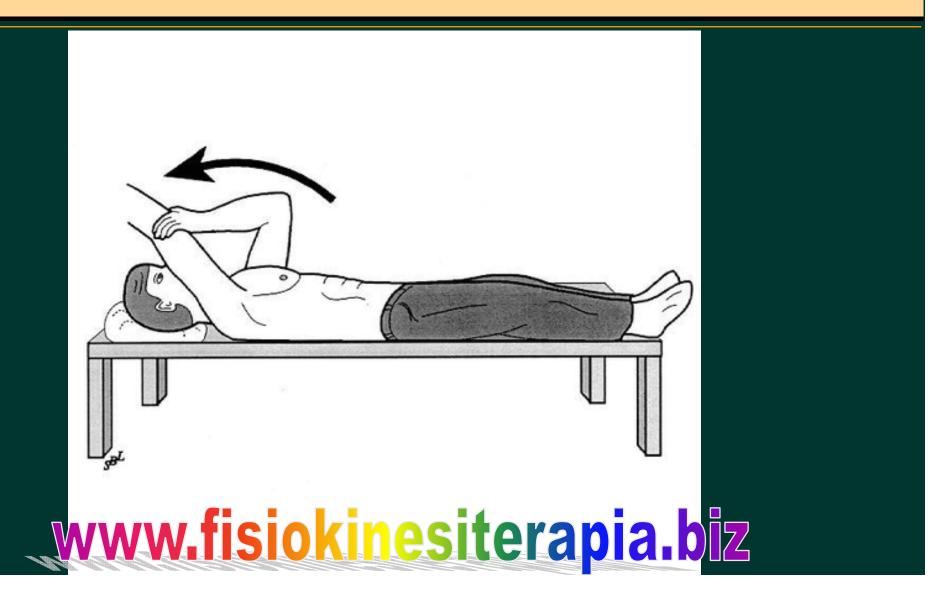


mbulatory Management

- Recognize that gentle stretching 5X/day for 6 weeks will improve most cases
- Demonstrate stretching exercises
- Return visit to check on exercises
- Monitor range of motion, symptoms

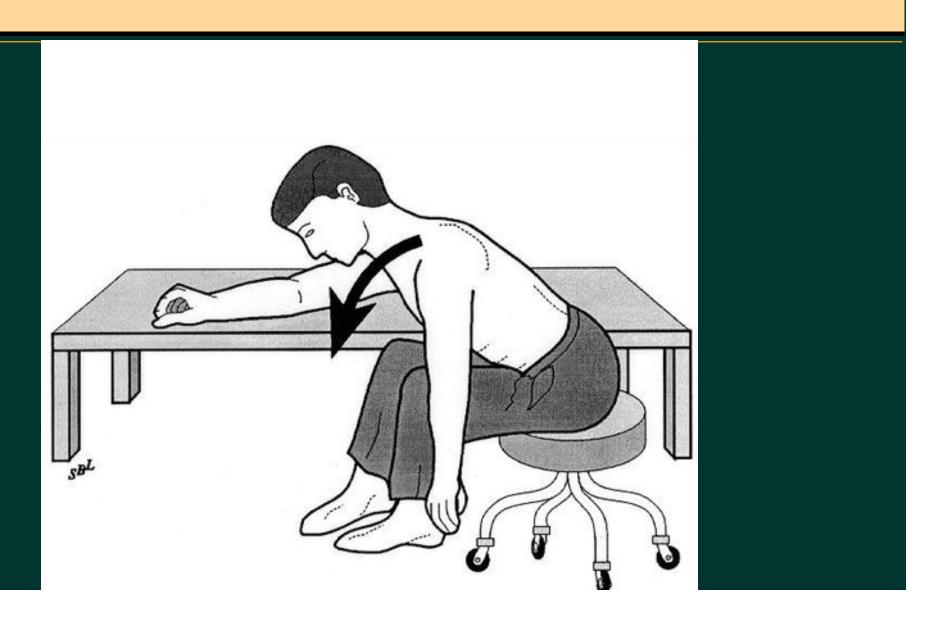


Flexion





Forward lean



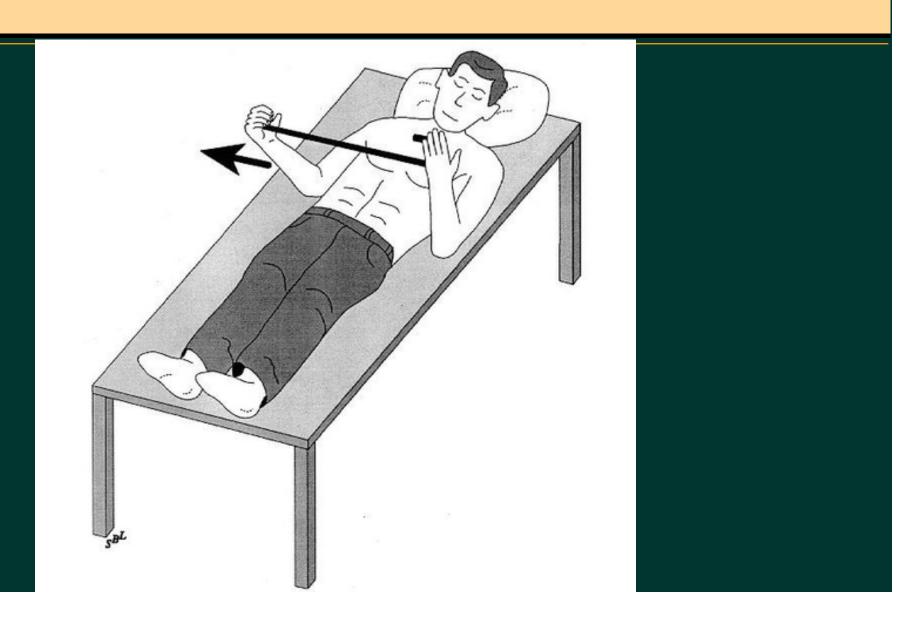


Cross-body





External rotation



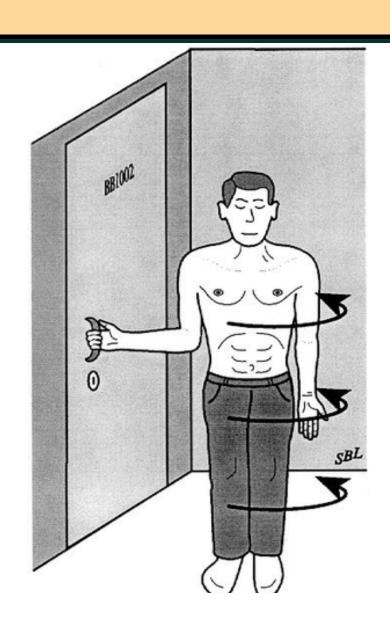


External Rotation



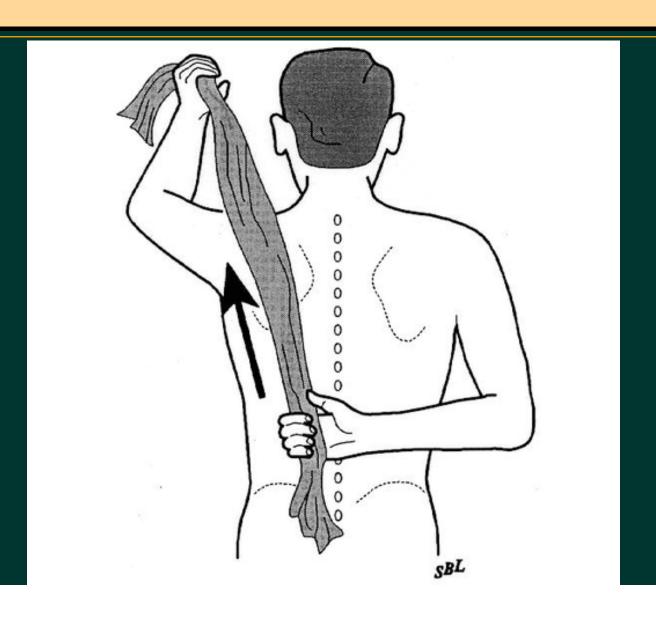


External rotation





Internal rotation



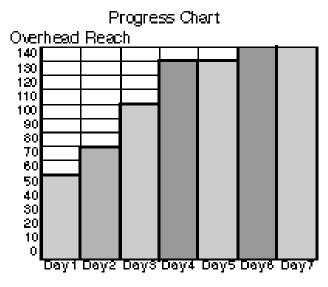


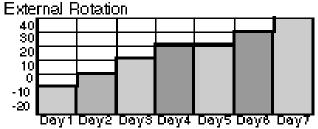
Internal Rotation





Document progress







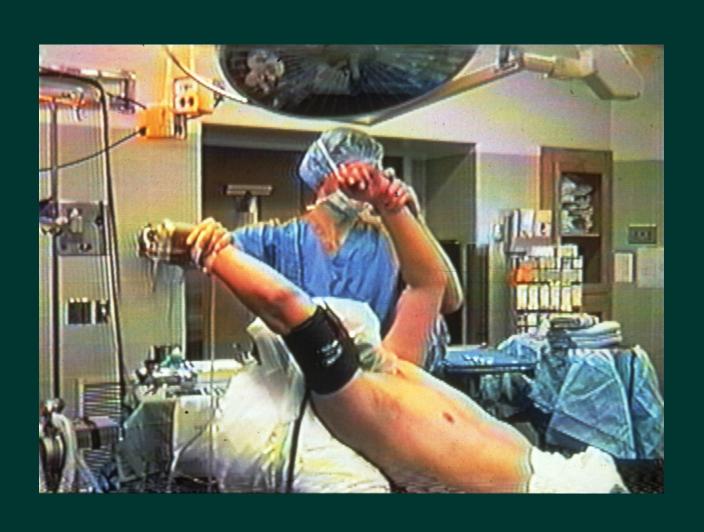
When to Refer to Ortho

- No improvement in range of motion or symptoms after 6 - 12 weeks of exercises
- Concern about other diagnoses (e.g.: questionable X-ray)



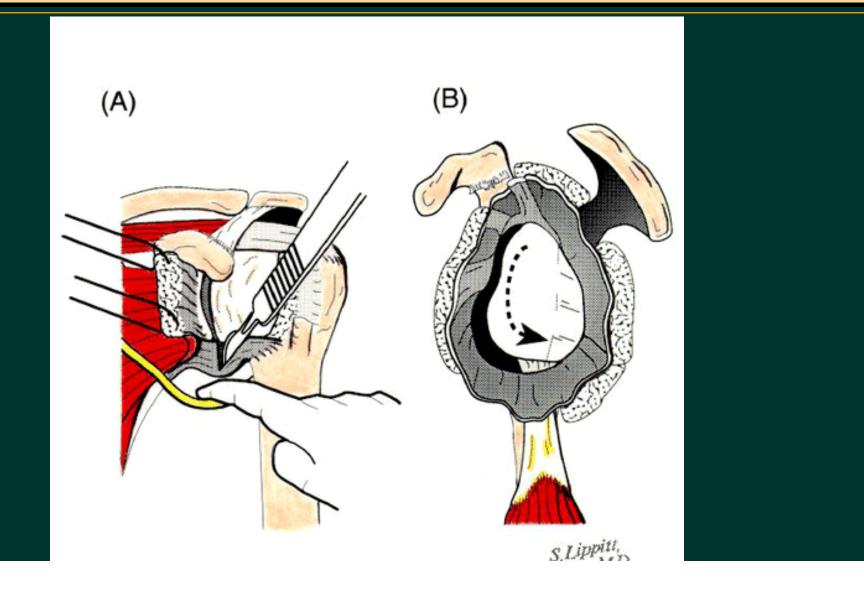
- Home stretching exercises
- Regular monitoring/feedback
- Possibly exam/manipulation under anesthesia if no previous injury/surgery and bone strong
- Possibly surgical release





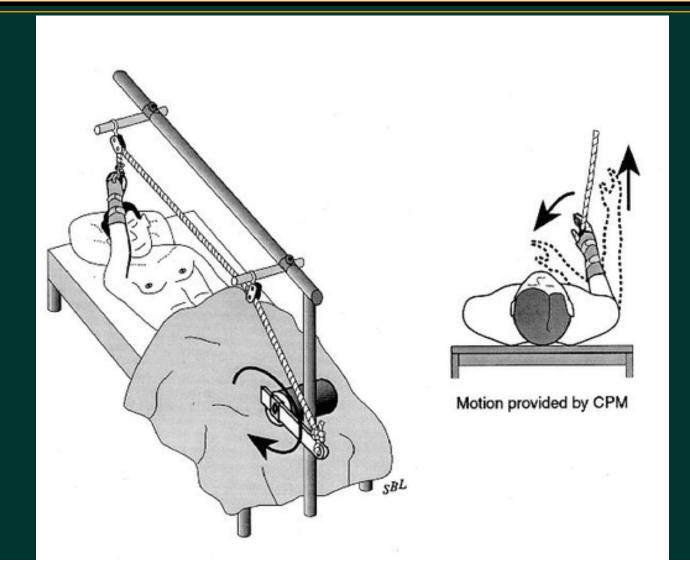


Capsular Release





Continuous Motion





Outcome

"Frozen Shoulders Thaw!"

Most do well well with near complete recovery of function and relief of pain, one way or another...



"Older" Shoulders

Arthritis



Definition

Loss of the cartilaginous surfaces in the glenohumeral joint



Cause

Generally idiopathic, but multiple others possible



Potential Causes:

Osteoarthritis Cuff Tear Arthropathy

Rheumatoid Post-surgical

Arthritis Previous Infection

Post-traumatic Tumor

Avascular Necrosis Spondyloarthropathy



Post-traumatic Arthritis





Cuff Tear Arthropathy





How to Recognize

Complaints

Night/rest pain, stiffness, weakness, roughness, functional limitation



How to Recognize

History

Insidious, progressive worsening, possible distant injury and/or surgery



Post-surgical





Exam

Atrophy, weakness, stiffness, crepitation, tenderness, rarely swelling



Stiffness



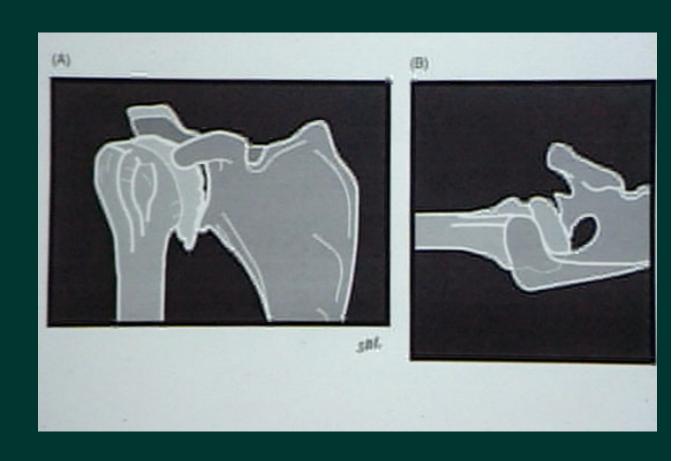
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X-ray AP Axillary Lateral



Osteoarthritis

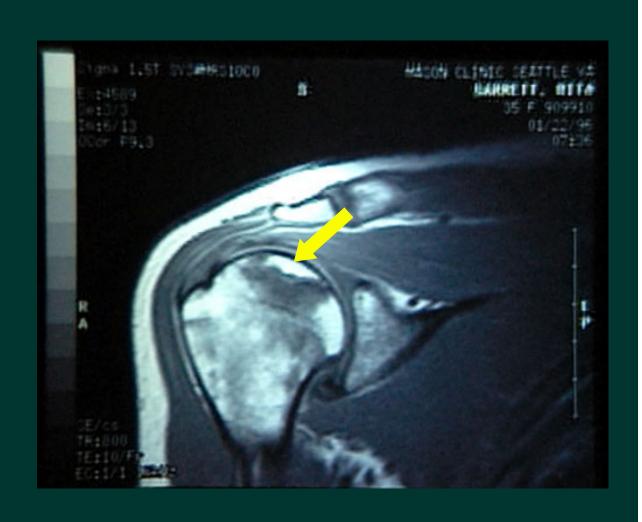




Other Studies
Occasional CT or MRI
Labs as needed
to R/O certain dxs



Avascular Necrosis





Differential Diagnosis

- Infection
- Charcot Joint
- Fracture of the proximal humerus
- Herniated cervical disc
- Rotator cuff tear
- Tumor



Ambulatory Treatment

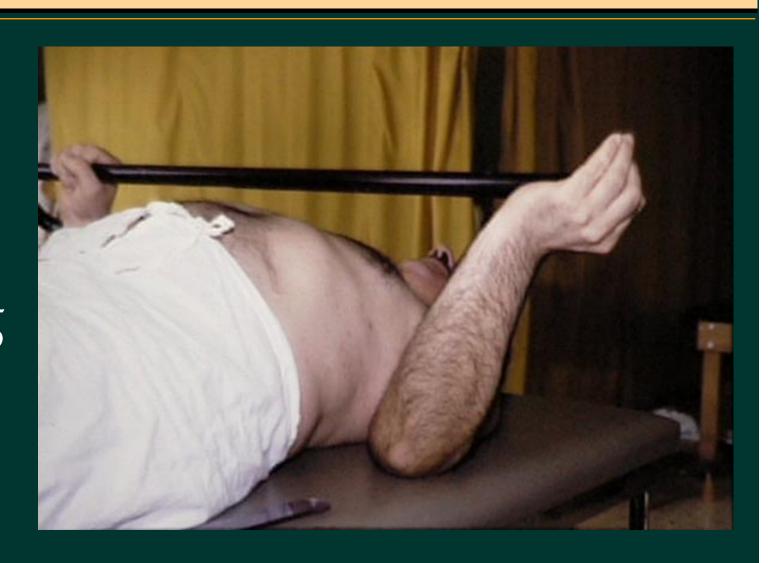
Conservative

NSAID's, avoidance, modification, passive stretching, ice/heat, support, possible cortisone injection (?)



Ambulatory Treatment

Passive Stretching





When to Refer

- Failure of conservative treatment and time (at least 3 mos?)
- Severe pain, difficulty sleeping, functional limitations disabling



- Further conservative management
- Explanation of risks/benefits
- •Surgery Arthroscopic or open smoothing/debridement vs. hemior total shoulder arthroplasty/fusion

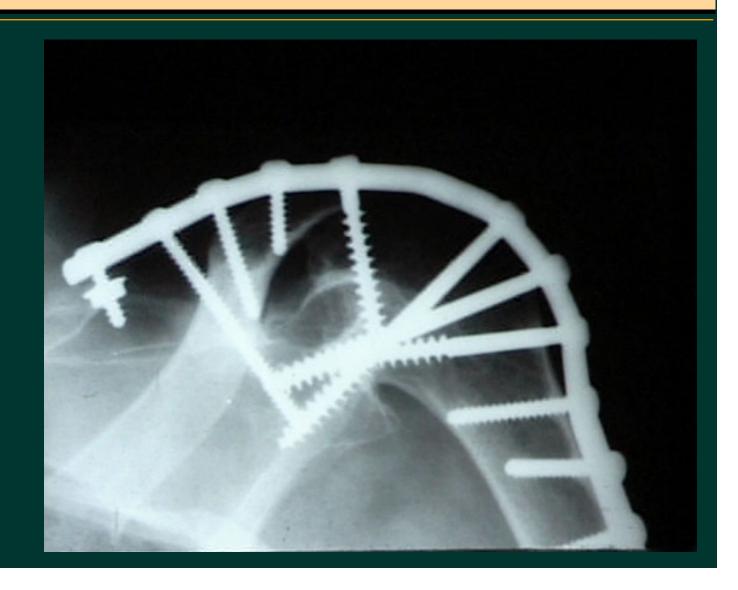


Total
Shoulder
Arthroplasty





Shoulder Arthrodesis





Outcome

Most do well extremely well with relief of pain and improvement of function



Summary

- A challenging problem
- Can have many etiologies and be very debilitating
- If conservative care fails, surgery can be very rewarding