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Rehabilitation Protocol Distal Biceps Repair

Phase I: Early ROM (*0 to 6 weeks*)

- Splint remains in place for the first 10-14 days.
- Sutures will be removed by physician in 10-14 days.
- At 10-14 days transition to hinged elbow brace.
- Initiate ROM exercises 3- 5 times per day in hinged elbow brace:
Weeks 2/3:
PROM into flexion and supination IN BRACE
AAROM into extension and pronation IN BRACE
 - Week 2: brace locked from 60 to full flexion
 - Week 3: brace locked from 40 to full flexionWeeks 4-6:
Add AAROM into flexion (not supination) IN BRACE
 - Week 4: brace unlocked from 30 to full flexion
 - Week 5: brace locked from 20 to full flexion
 - Week 6: brace unlocked full motionGrip ROM and strengthening exercises
Pro/supination always performed at 90 degrees of flexion

Phase II: Restore Function (*6-12 weeks*)

- Progress active and passive ROM as tolerated.
- Initiate gentle elbow and forearm strengthening.
 - No Lifting/carrying > than 5 lbs, no repetitive use

Phase III: Return to work (*>12 weeks*)

- Increase strength and endurance (work specific) training