

Subjective Exam Asterisks (Aggravating/easing factors, description/location of symptoms, behavior, mechanisms of injury)				
54 year-old female nurse 4 month history of right shoulder pain				
Mechanism of injury	Unclear, potentially rolling in bed and pulling the covers			
Chief complaint(s)	Localized dull ache, occasional sharp pain Becoming more constant and intense Difficulty moving arm due to pain and stiffness			
Aggravating activities	Moving arm away from body, dressing, reaching behind body, carrying heavy objects, laying on involved side			
Alleviating activities	Medication, not doing agg activities			
Past medical history	Hypothyroidism, family history of breast CA (mother and grandmother), "left shoulder stiffness"			
Current level of function	Walks dog daily, yoga weekly, unable to sleep due to pain, requires assistance with dressing			

Physical Exam Asterisks (Special tests, movement/joint dysfunction, posture, palpation, etc) 54 year-old female nurse				
4 month history of right shoulder pain				
Cervical Screen	(-)			
Range of Motion	(Active) Flexion: 131º, Abduction: 92º, ER: 39º, IR: 60º (Passive) Generally equal to AROM, pain limits all motions Excessive scapular elevation with active elevation			
Special Tests	Unclear results due to pain			
Strength	Weak and painful with resisted shoulder ER and IR			
Palpation	No remarkable tenderness to palpation at shoulder complex Latent TrPs in upper traps Increased tension in upper traps/levator scap, pec major/minor			
Joint Accessory Motion	Stiffness all planes, firm end feel, pain reported			

Freezing		Frozen	Thawing	
Pre-adhesive	Freezing	Frozen	Thawing	
0 – 3 mo.	3 – 9 mo.	9 – 15 mo.	15 - 24 mo.	
Mild synovitis	Thickened red synovitis	Less synovitis	Severe capsular restriction	
Mimics SAI		Dense adhesions	without synovitis	
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Stage I: Pain > Stiffness

- Duration: 0-3 months
- Pain with AROM and PROM
- Limited motion in all cardinal planes
- PROM under anesthesia: minimal, if any, loss of ROM
- Arthroscopic findings: diffuse GH synovitis, primarily anterosuperior capsule
- Pathologic changes: hypertrophic, hypervascular synovium, rare inflammatory cell infiltrates, normal underlying capsule

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Stage II: Pain! > Stiffness

- Duration: 3-9 months
- Chronic pain with AROM and PROM
- Significant ROM limitations all planes
- PROM under anesthesia essentially = PROM while awake
- Arthroscopic findings: diffuse pedunculated synovitis
- Pathologic changes: hypertrophic, hypervascular synovitis with perivascular and subsynovial scar, fibroplasia and scar formation in underlying capsule



Stage III: Stiffness! > Pain

- Duration: 9-15 months
- Minimal pain, except at end ranges
- Significant ROM limitations, firm/rigid end feel
- PROM under anesthesia = PROM while awake
- Arthroscopic findings: no hypervascularity seen, notable remnants of fibrotic synovium, diminished capsular volume
- Pathologic changes: dense scar formation at capsule

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Manual Therapy

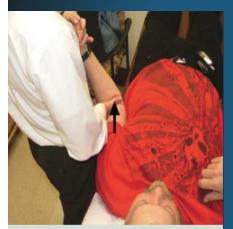


FIGURE 5. Inferior glide with the arm at the side and in external rotation.



FIGURE 6. Stretch to target the rotator cuff interval. The patient's hand remains fixed and the elbow is moved toward the table.

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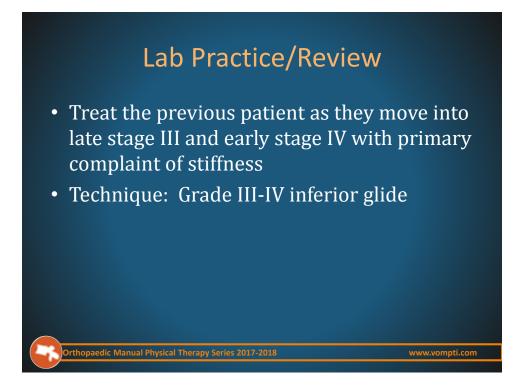
Stage IV: Stiffness > Pain

- Duration: 15-24 months
- Minimal pain reported
- Progressive improvement in ROM
- Evaluation under anesthesia data unavailable
- Incorporate higher grade mobilizations

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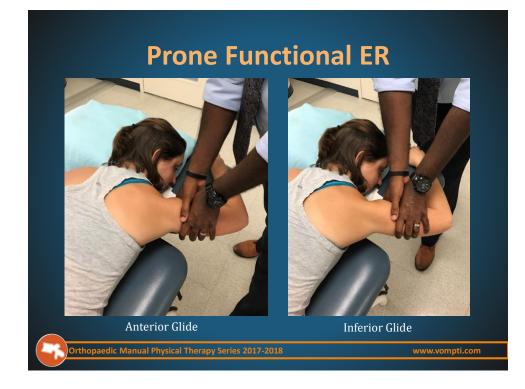
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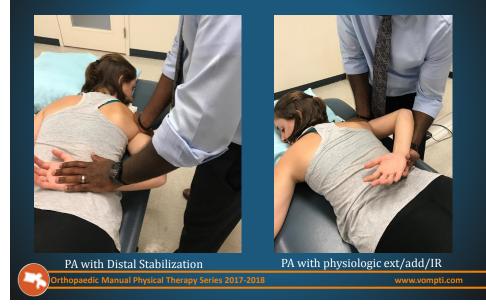


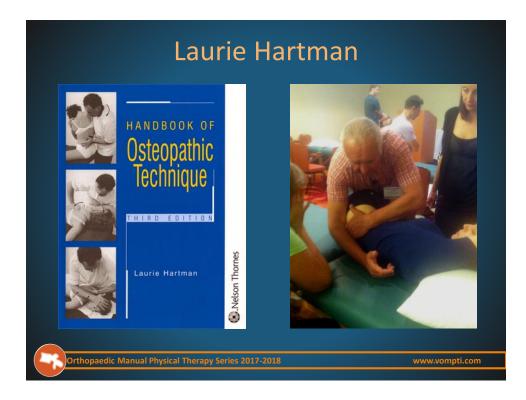
End Range Inferior GH Glide





Prone Functional IR





Thoracic Gap Manip Supine

