

Direction-Specific Rehabilitation for Shoulder Instability: Progression Criteria for the Anterior and Posterior Rotator Cuff

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Current Clinical Concepts: Nonoperative Management of Shoulder Instability

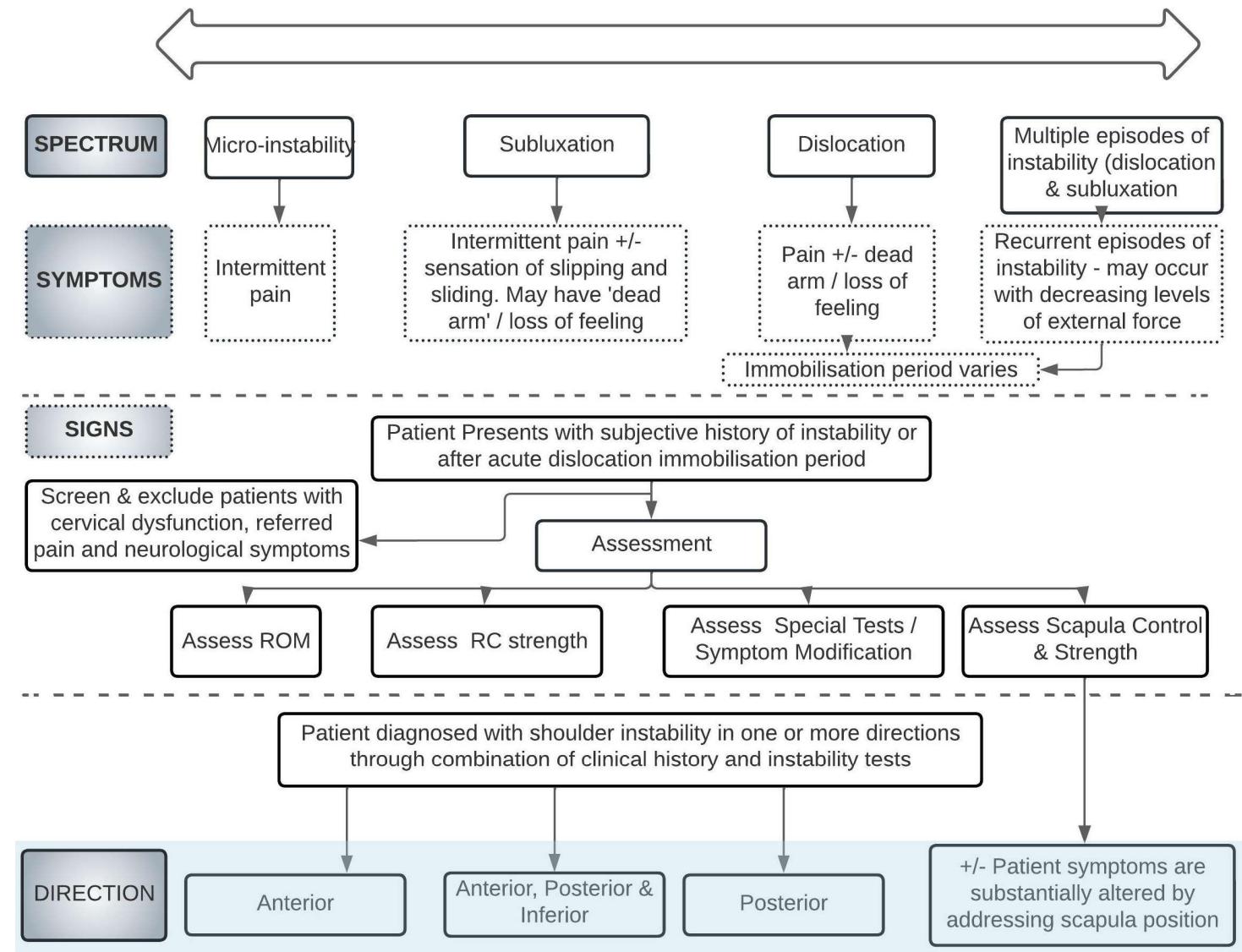
Margie Olds & Tim Uhl

Journal of Athletic Training, 2023.



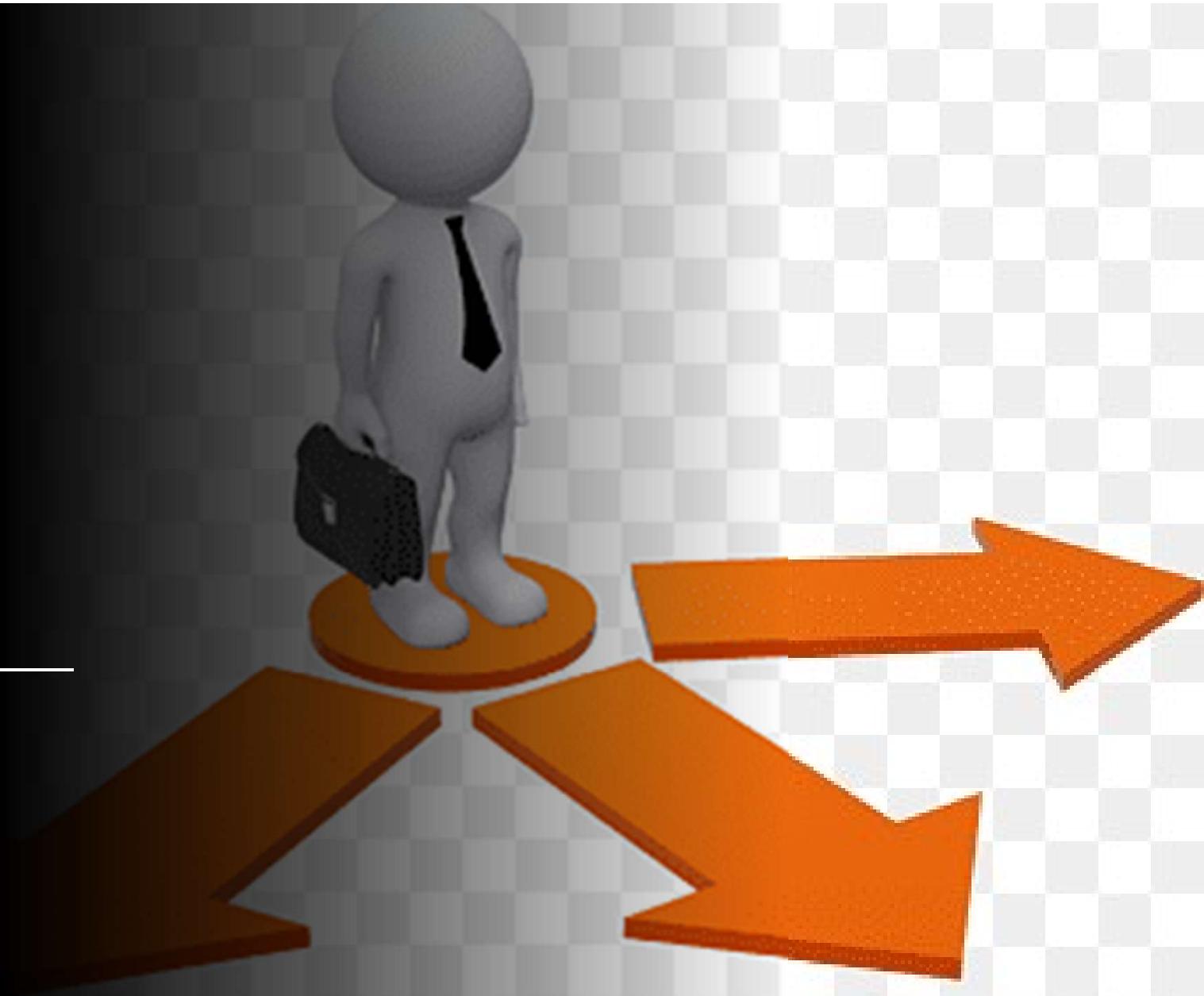
SHOULDER INSTABILITY FRAMEWORK

Spectrum, Symptoms & Assessment of Shoulder Instability



Direction of Shoulder Instability

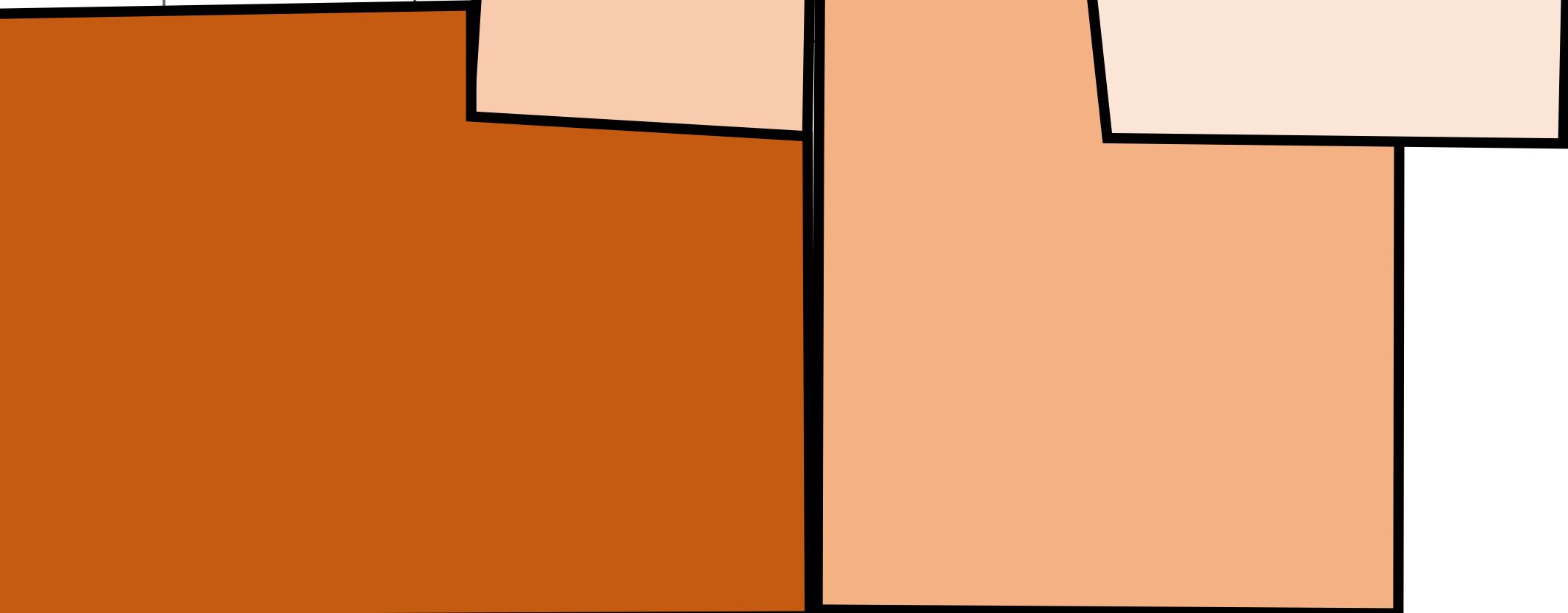
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Anterior with posterior capsule restriction

Anterior without posterior restriction

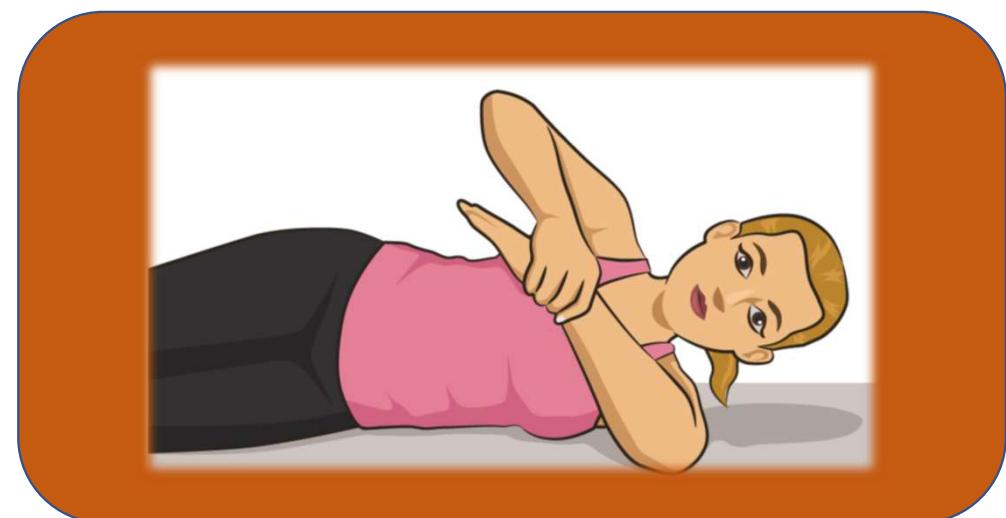
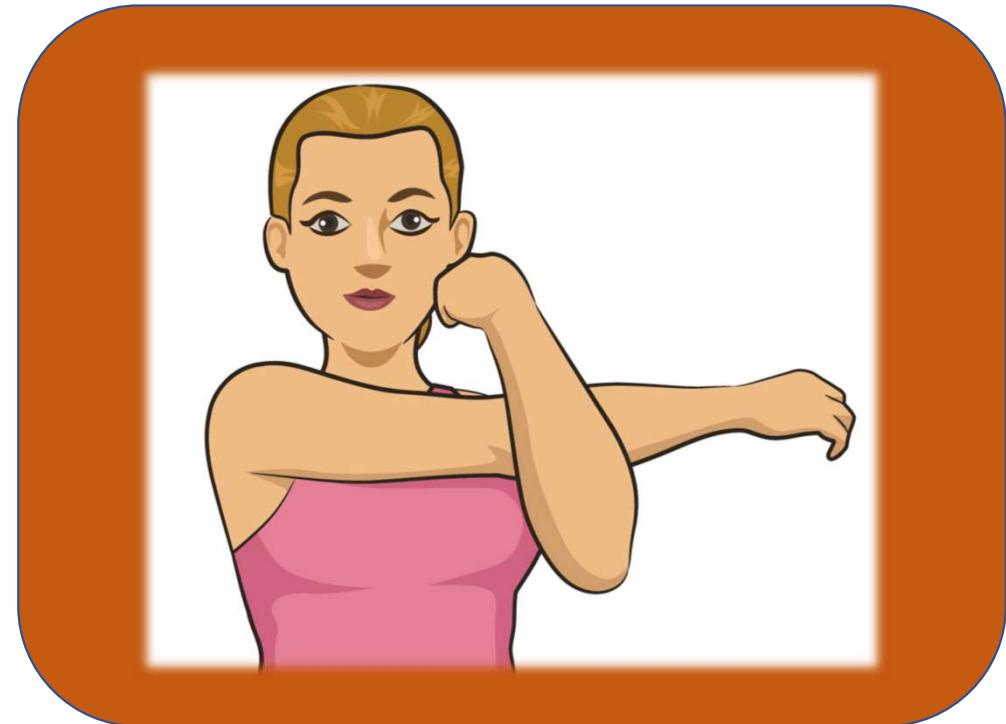


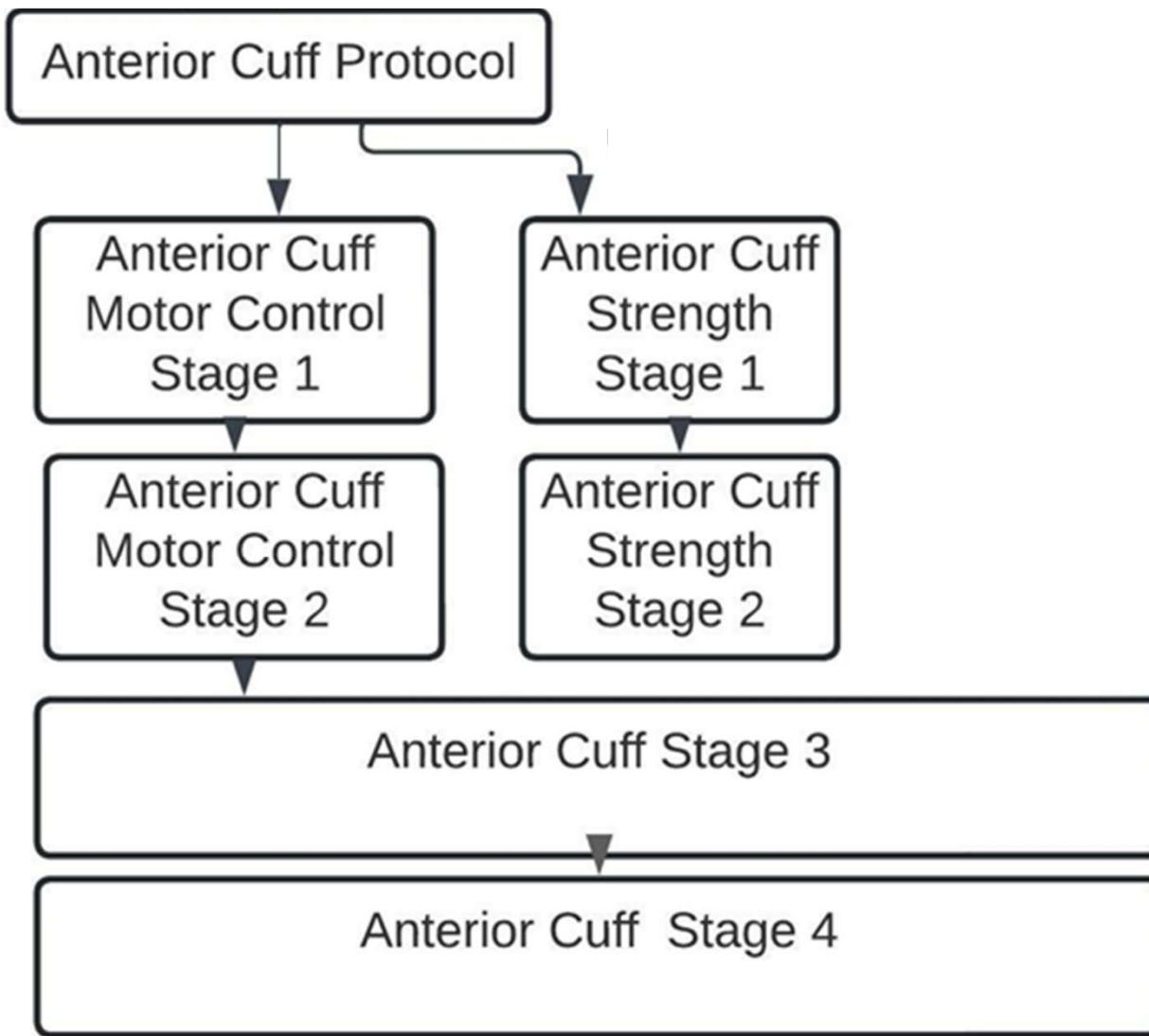
Anterior Cuff Protocol

Anterior Cuff Protocol

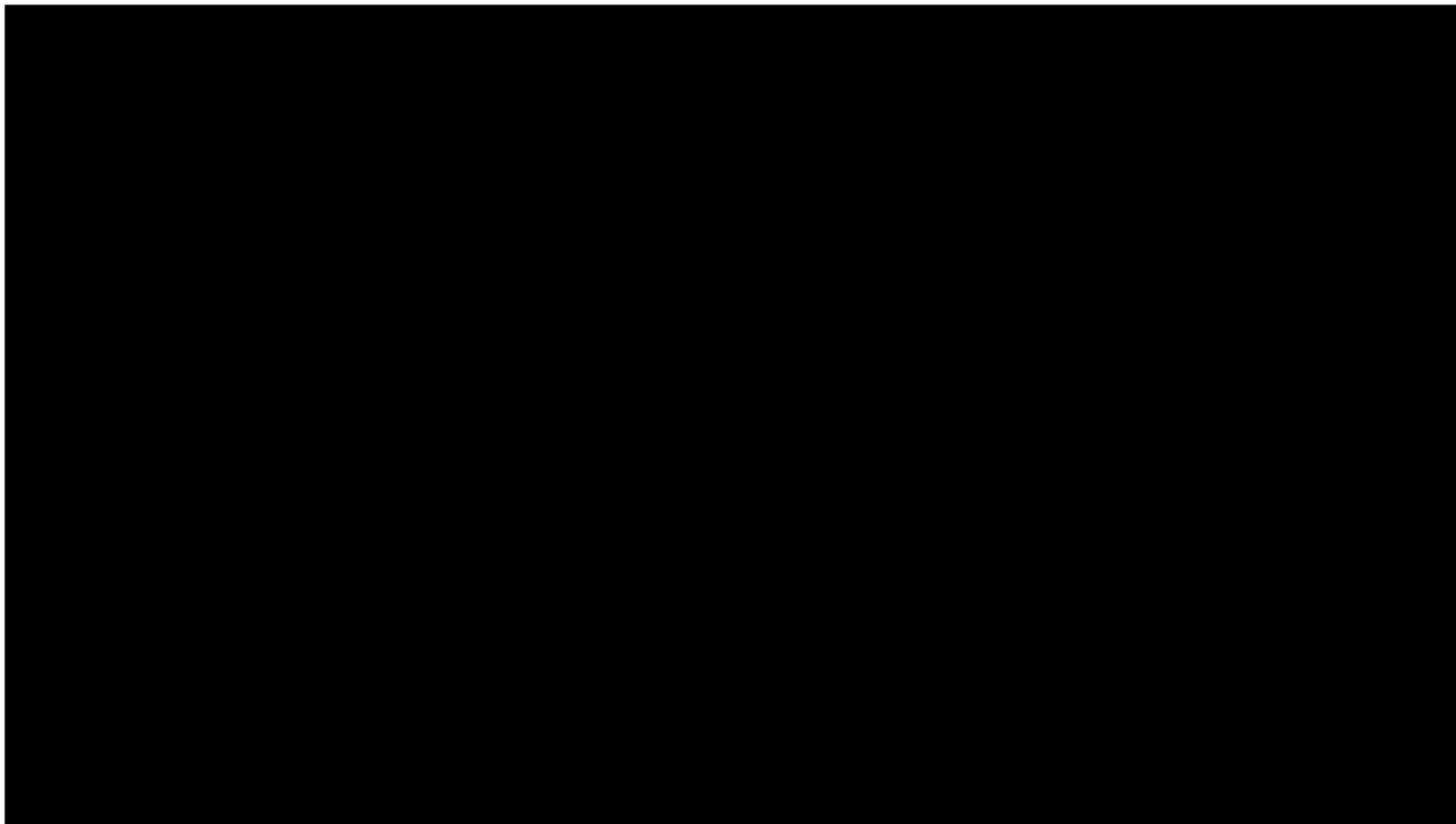
Anterior protocol with posterior shoulder restriction

- Address Anterior Instability
- Address posterior restriction
 - Sleeper Stretch
 - Cross Body Stretch
 - Joint mobilisation
 - Soft tissue release / fascial mobilisation
 - Eccentric strengthening
 - Contract / relax

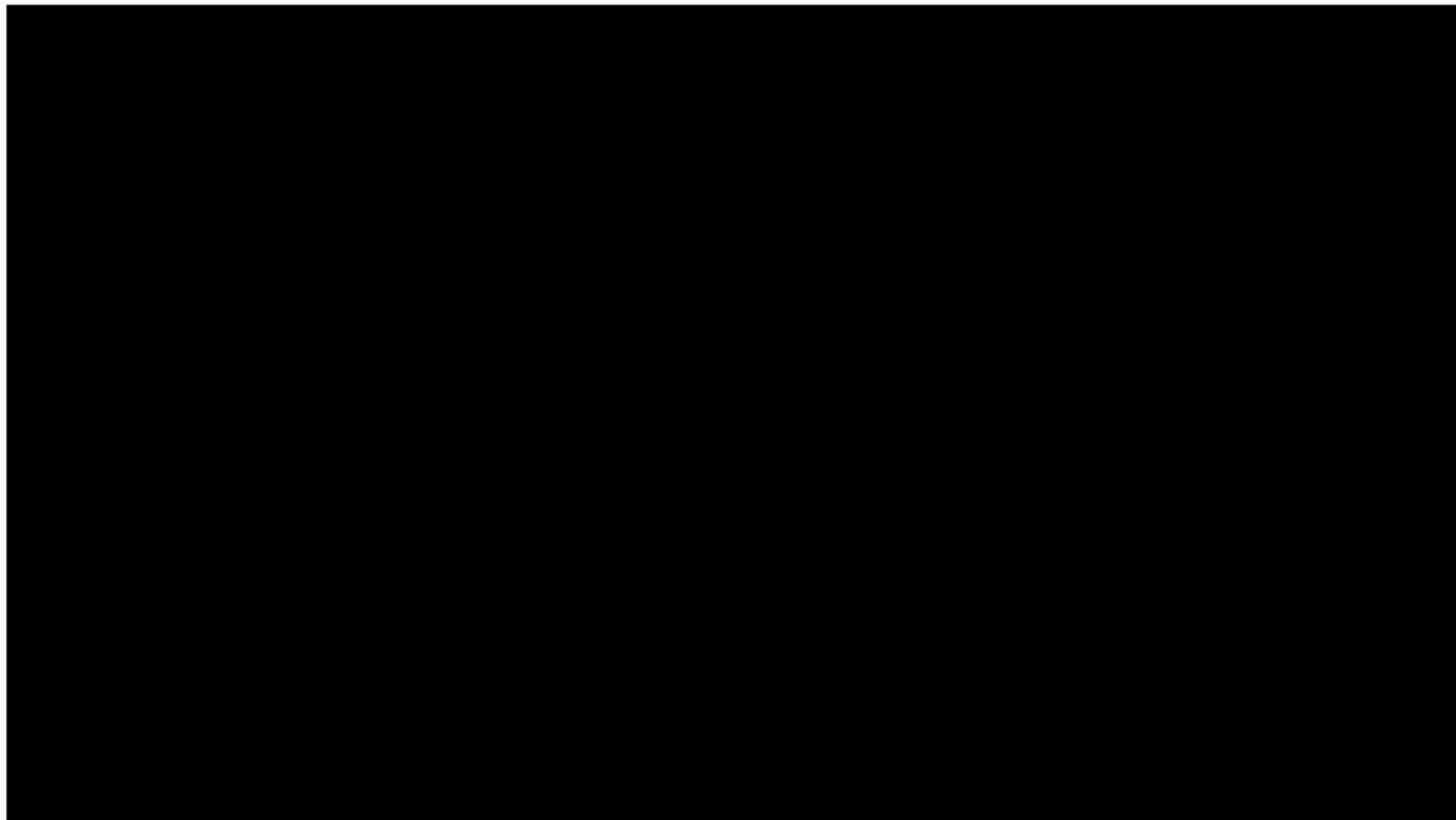




Anterior Cuff Motor Control Stage 1



Anterior Cuff Motor Control Stage 2



Criteria to Progress

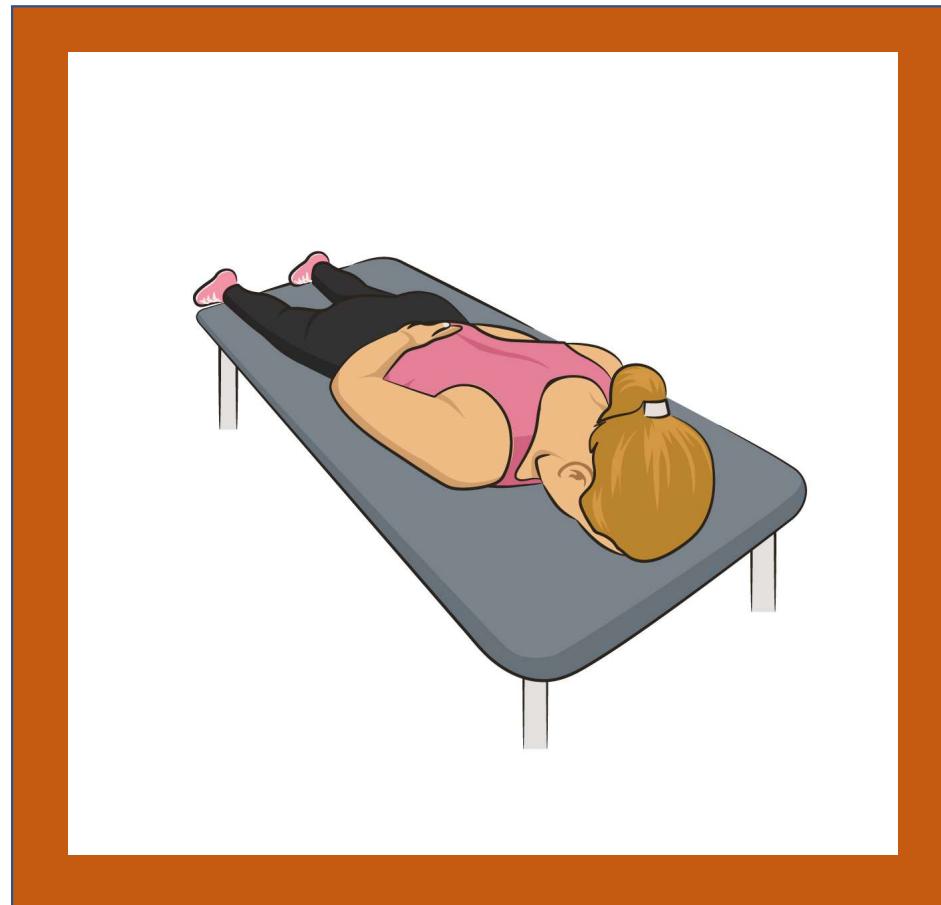
Motor Control – Stage 1

Patients demonstrates good motor control by activating and relaxing the subscapularis isometrically 15 times without difficulty.

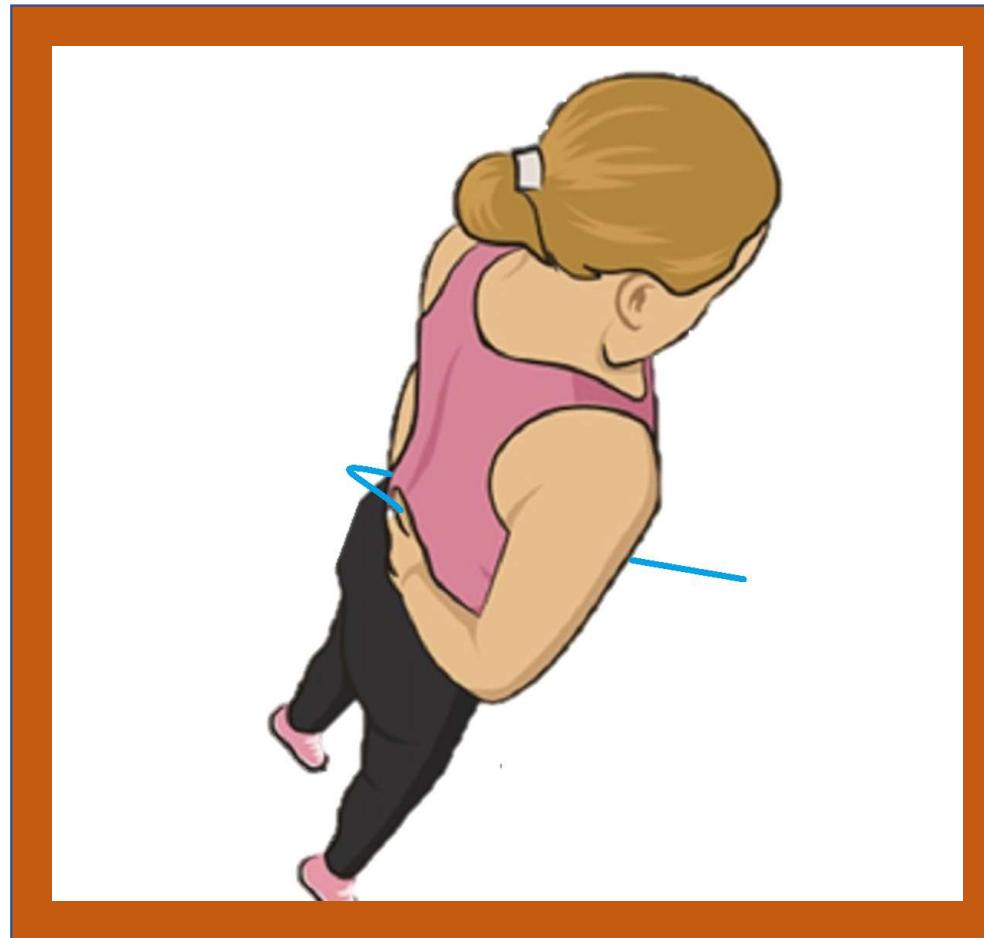
Motor Control – Stage 2

Patient should be able to demonstrate smooth eccentric and concentric movement through 0-90° with the arm abducted to 90° in supine with 1-1.5kg (2-3 pounds) load for 15 repetitions with continuous palpable subscapularis contraction.

Anterior Cuff Strength Stage 1



Anterior Cuff Strength Stage 2



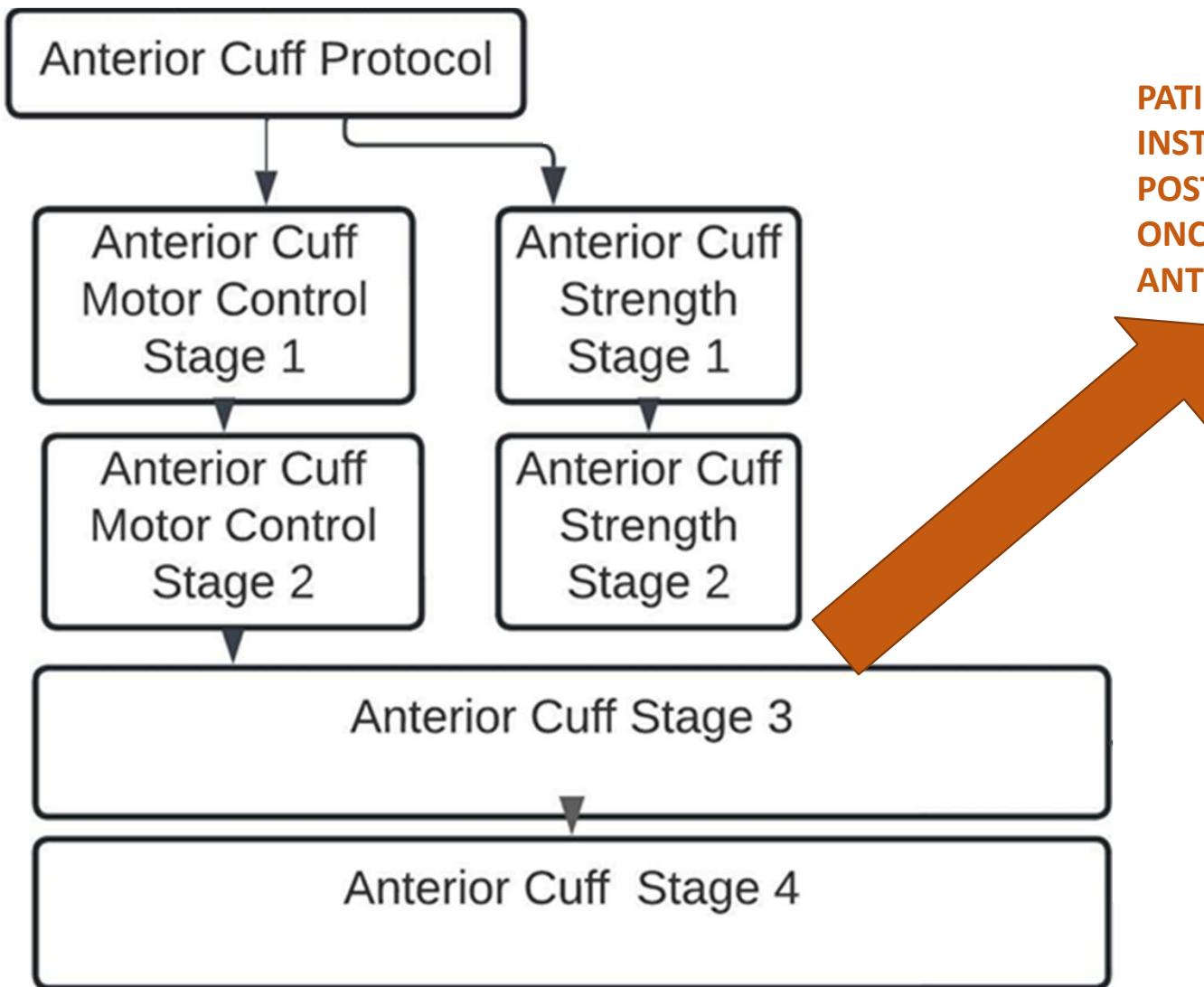
Criteria to Progress

Strength- Stage 1

Patient sustains 3 x 30-second isometric contraction in the prone lift-off position

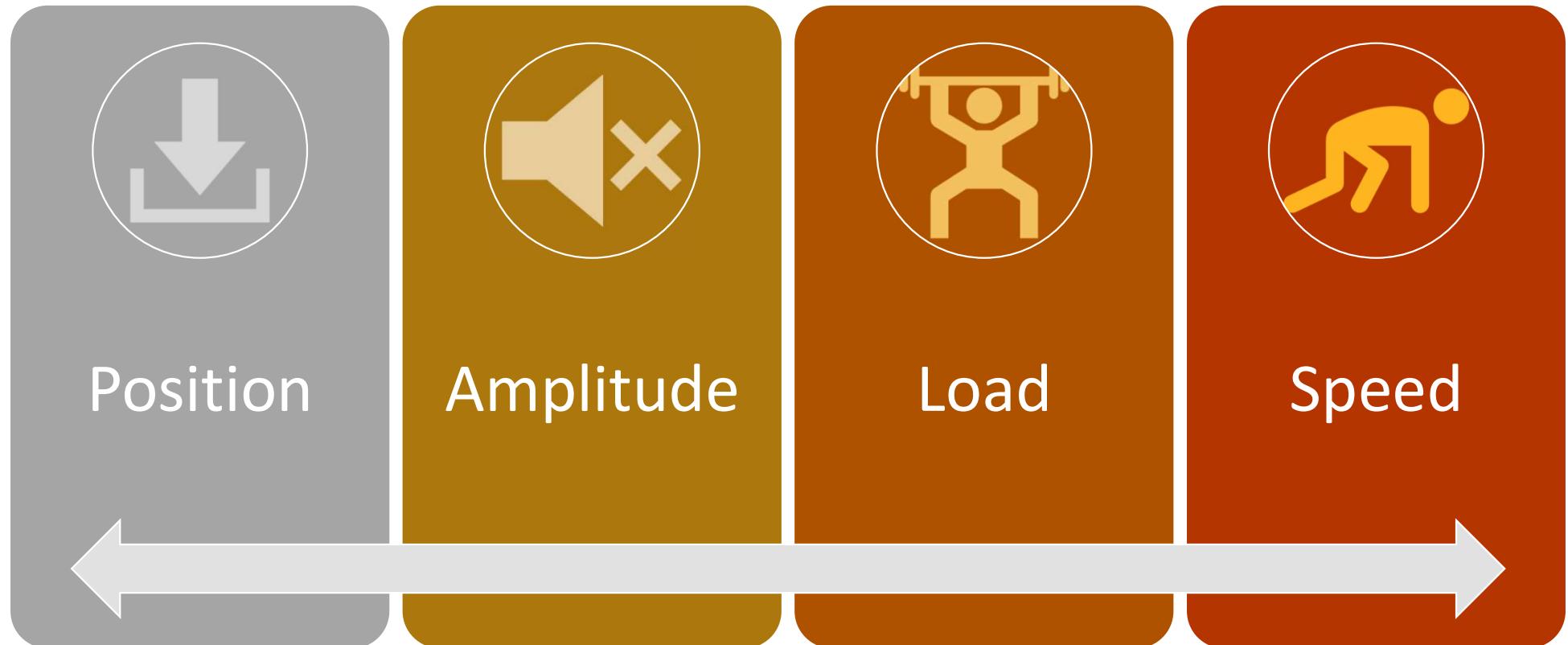
Strength- Stage 2

The patient can lift and hold their hand away from their spine (1-2 inches) using a 1-meter heavy resistance band (blue or black) for 30 seconds without losing control and pain free.

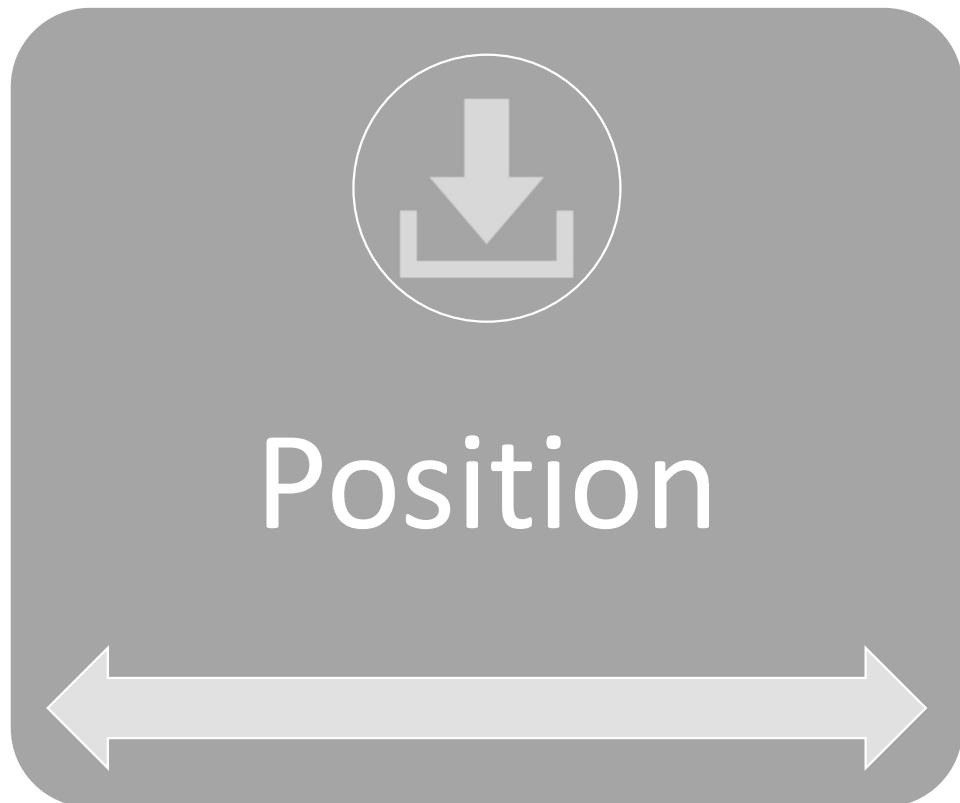


PATIENTS WITH ANTERIOR
INSTABILITY PROGRESS TO
POSTERIOR CUFF PROTOCOL
ONCE HAVE MASTERED
ANTERIOR CUFF 1 AND 2

Anterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS



Anterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS



Position

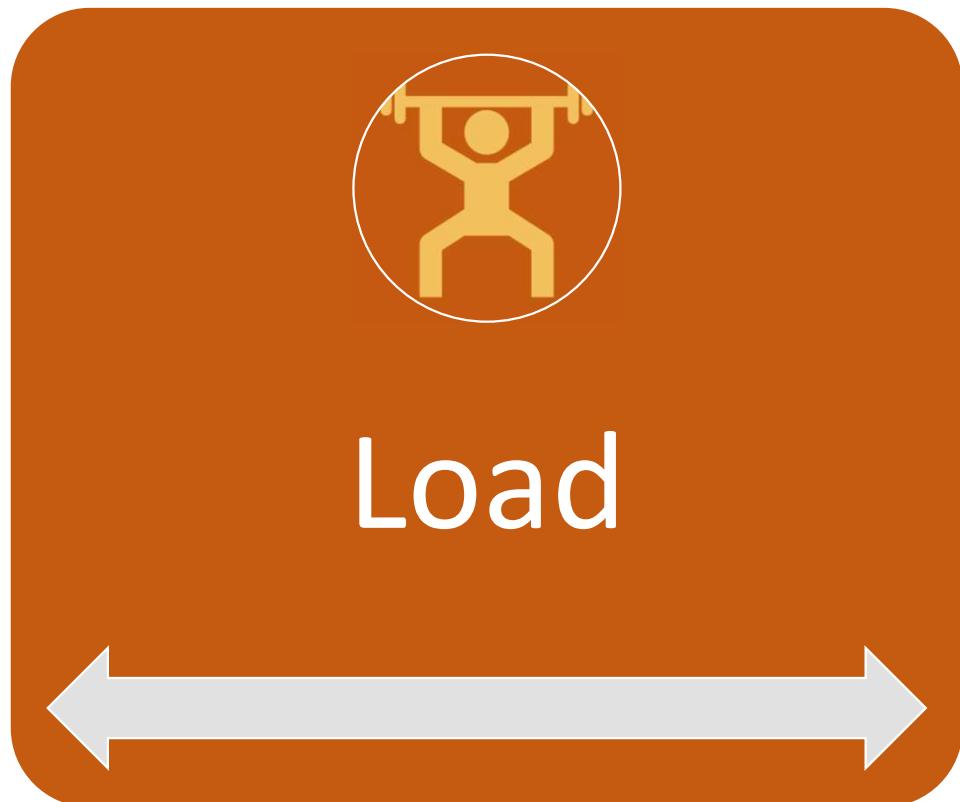
- **POSITION**
 - Strengthening should be undertaken in position of injury / risk

Anterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS



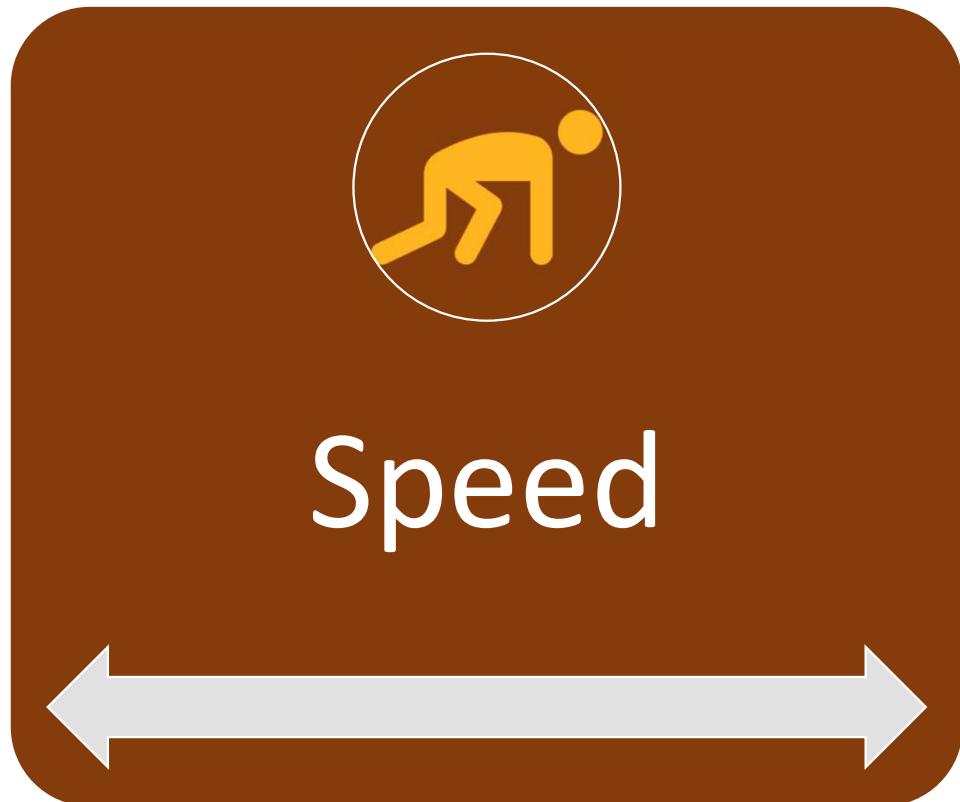
- **AMPLITUDE**
 - Amplitude of movement should replicate
 - patient's activity / risk

Anterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS



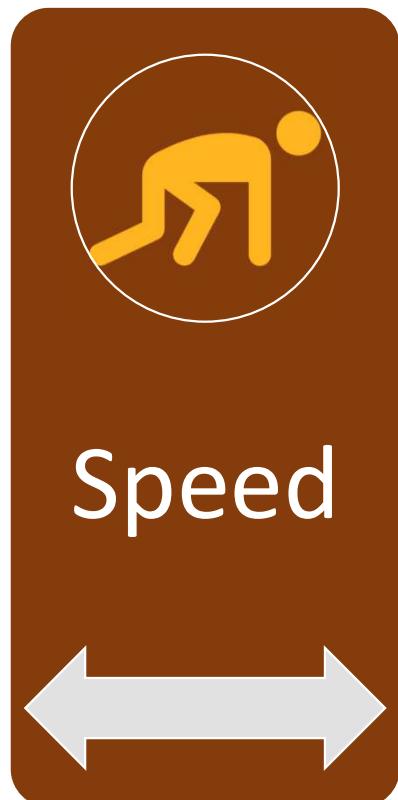
- LOAD
 - Level of load / force should replicate patient's activity
 - Progressive Load
 - Weight room activities commence
 - Arc of motion may be limited

Anterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS



- SPEED
 - Speed of movement should replicate patient's activity

Anterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS



Anterior Rotator Cuff Protocol

IR at side through pain-free arc

No 30 50 70 90 120
pace

IR in scapula plane 0-90°

No 30 50 70 90 120
pace

IR in frontal plane 0-90°

No 30 50 70 90 120
Pace

Assuming a 90° arc of motion 30 bpm = 45°/sec, 90 bpm = 135°/sec, 120 bpm = 180°/sec

Criteria to Progress

Speed – Stage 3

Concentric and eccentric elastic resistance external rotation for 30 seconds, before the speed is increased.

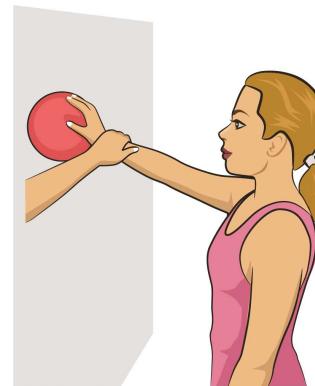
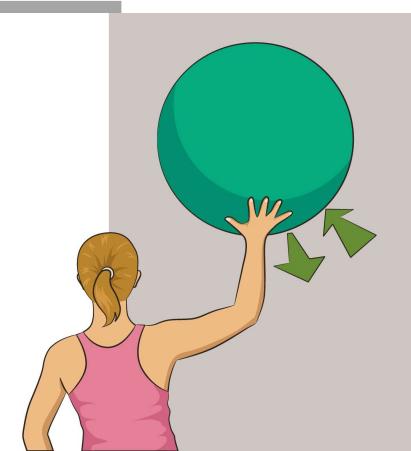
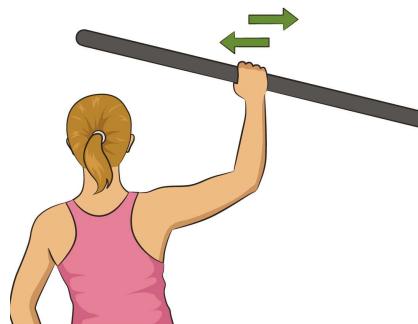
Usually increase their speed of movement every 5-7 days or every couple of visits based on patients' level of function and motor control.

Anterior Cuff Strength Stage 4

Physical

- Strength
 - Hypertrophy
 - Endurance
- Control
 - Motor Pattern Integration
- Speed
 - Reaction Time
 - Expected (Eyes Open)
 - Blazepods
 - Unexpected (Eyes Closed)
- Perturbations
 - Sudden load of subscapularis
 - Perturbate into:
 - Abduction / ER / Horizontal Extn

Psychological



Anterior Cuff Strength Stage 4



Psychological

- Fear
 - PHODA
- Confidence
- Virtual Reality

Anterior Cuff Strength Stage 4

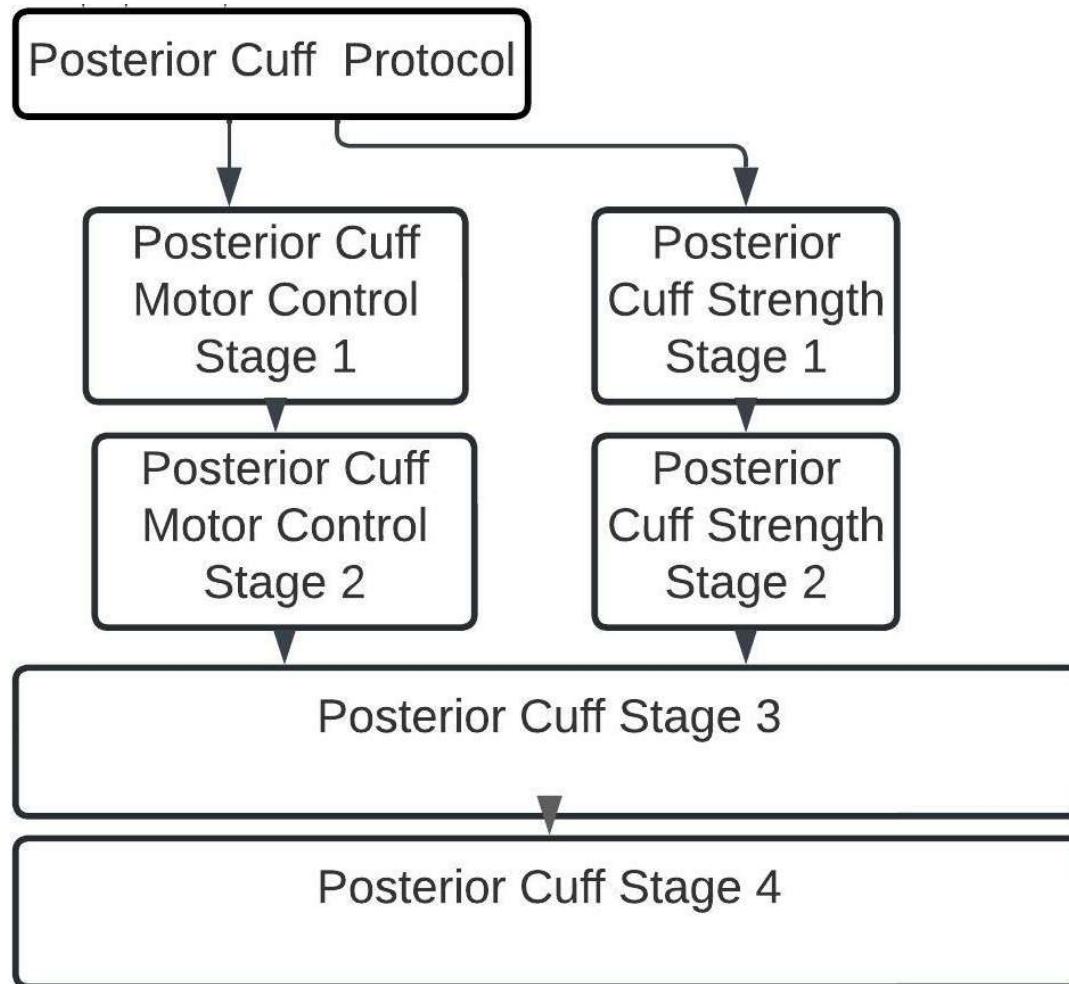


Criteria to Progress

Perturbations – Stage 4

Should be able to withstand one minute of perturbations with no pain before attempt return to sport testing

Posterior Cuff Protocol



Posterior Cuff Motor Control Stage 1 & 2



Posterior Cuff Motor Control Stage 1 & 2



Criteria to Progress

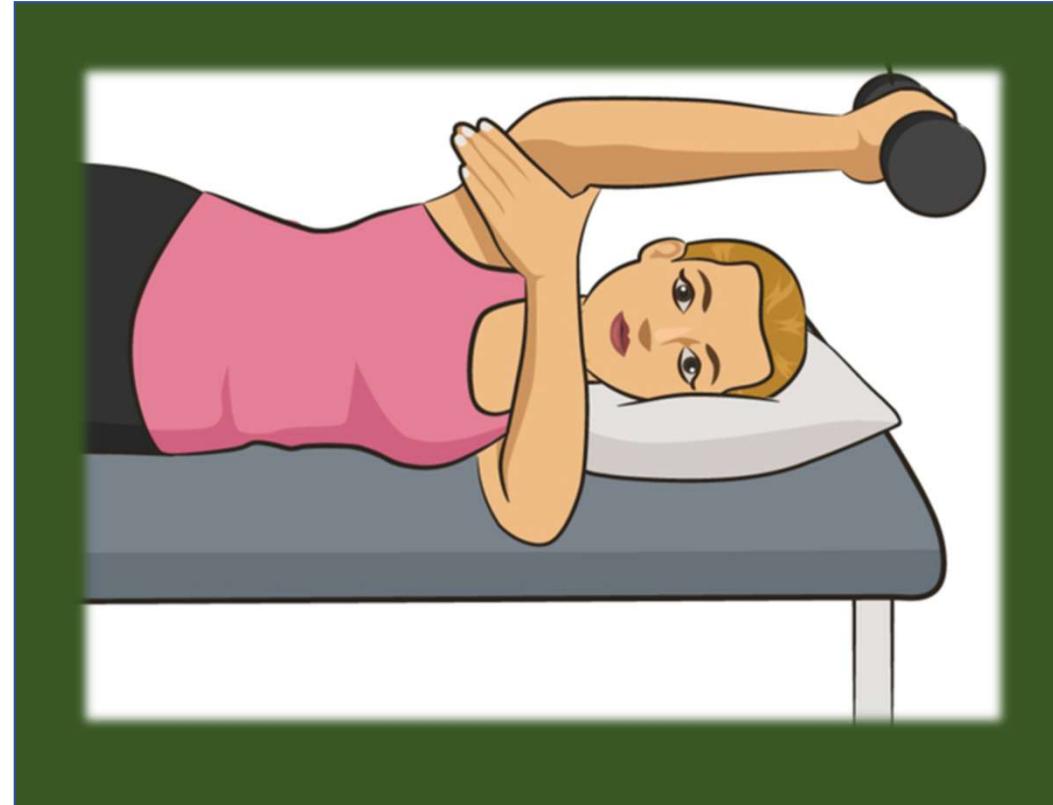
Motor Control – Stage 1

Patient in prone can hold their arm at 90° of abduction and 90° of external rotation for 30 seconds with no weight with minimal scapula movement to achieve this position.

Motor Control – Stage 2

Patients can perform 30 repetitions in prone from 0-90° with 1 kg weight. It is critical that the scapular remains relatively still and the motion of the HH is differentiated from scapula compensation.

Posterior Cuff Strength Stage 1



Criteria to Progress

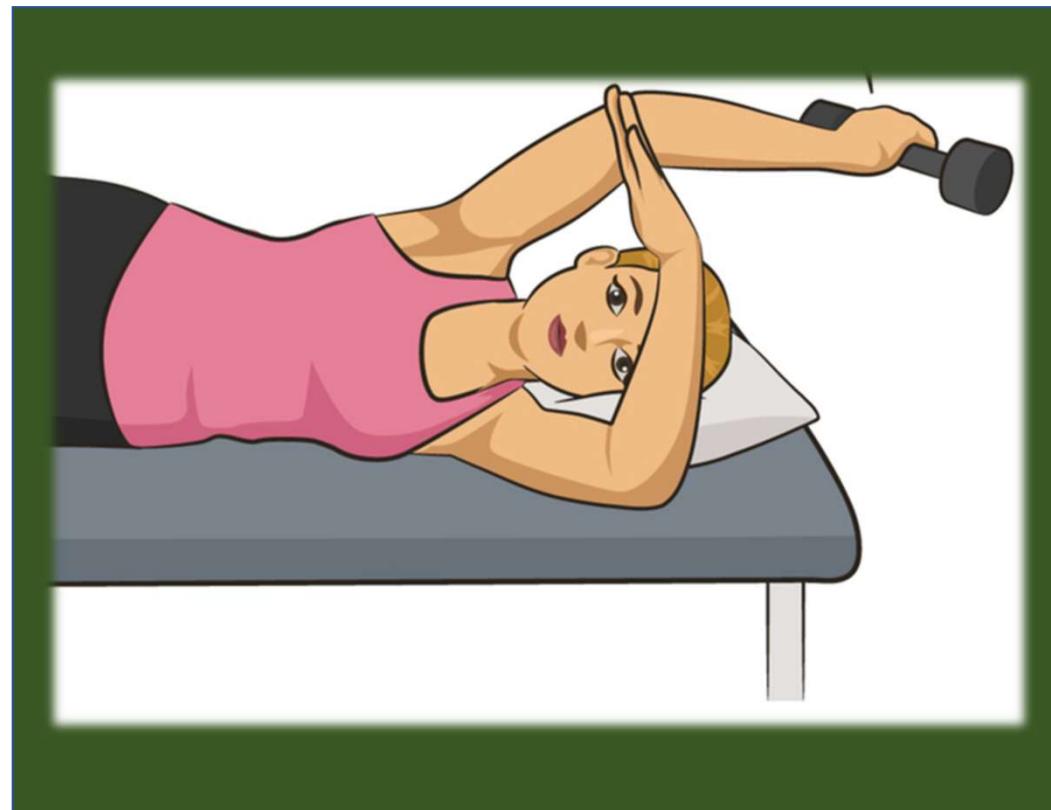
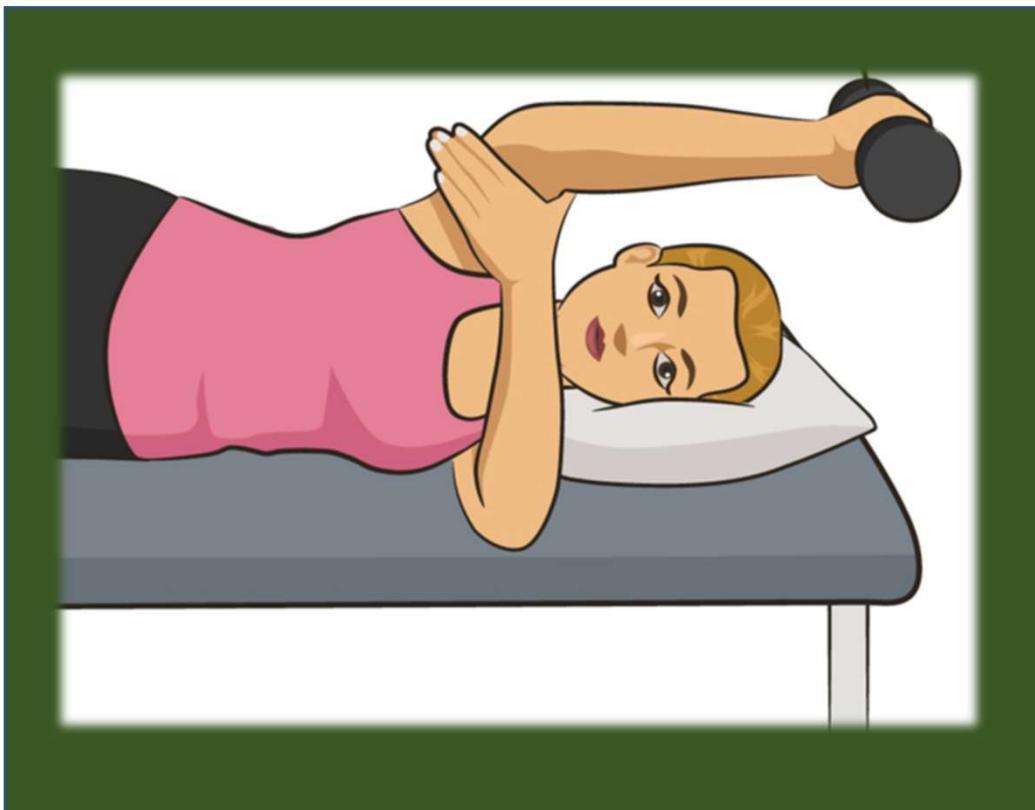
Strength- Stage 1

Patient can hold 1kg in 45 degrees of flexion for 30 seconds with 3 repetitions

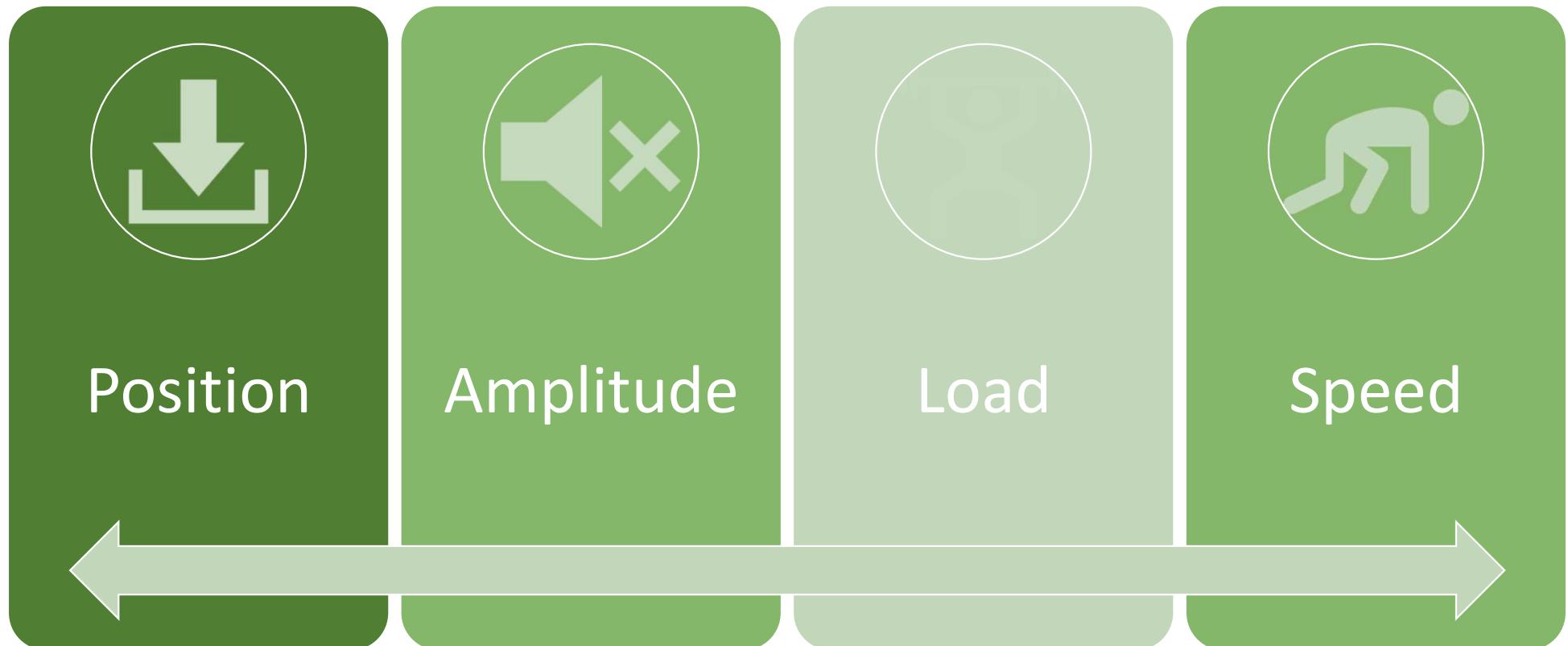
Strength- Stage 2

Patient can hold 1kg at 90 degrees of flexion for 3 sets of 30 seconds

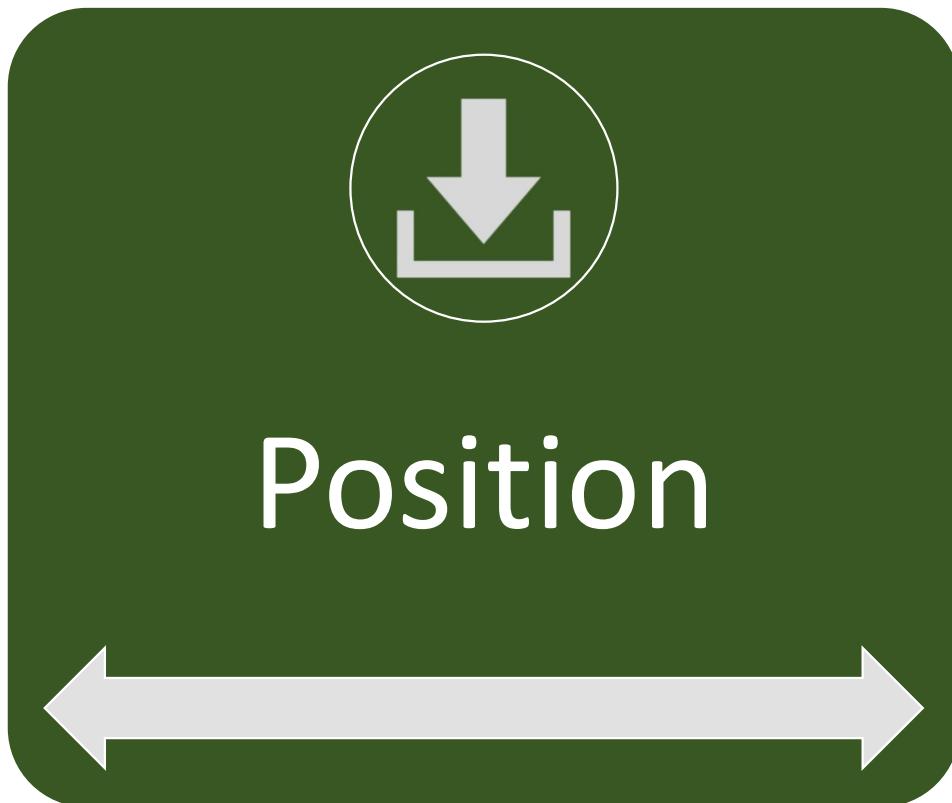
Posterior Cuff Criteria to Progress



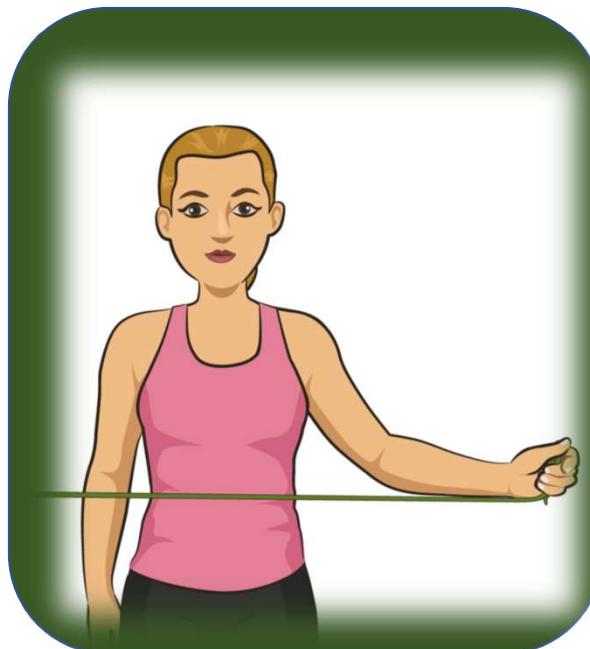
Posterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS



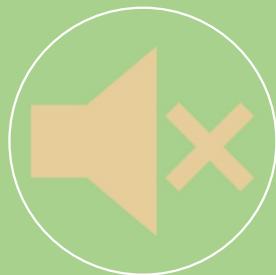
Posterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS



- **POSITION**
 - Strengthening should be undertaken in position of injury / risk



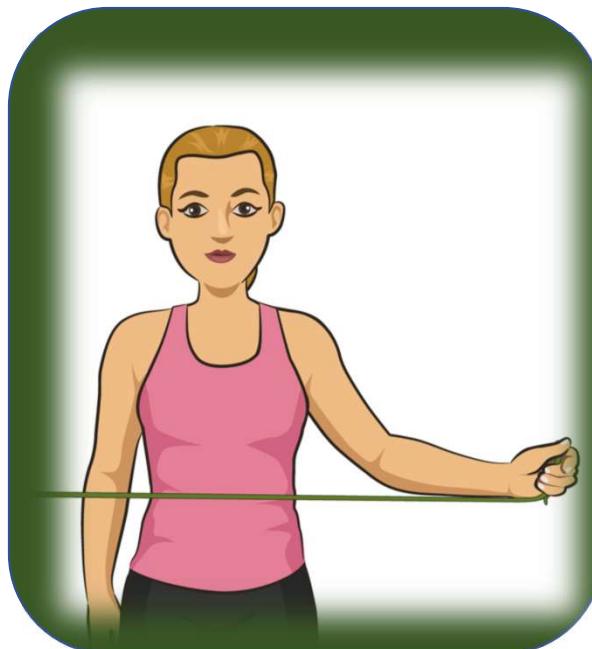
Posterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS



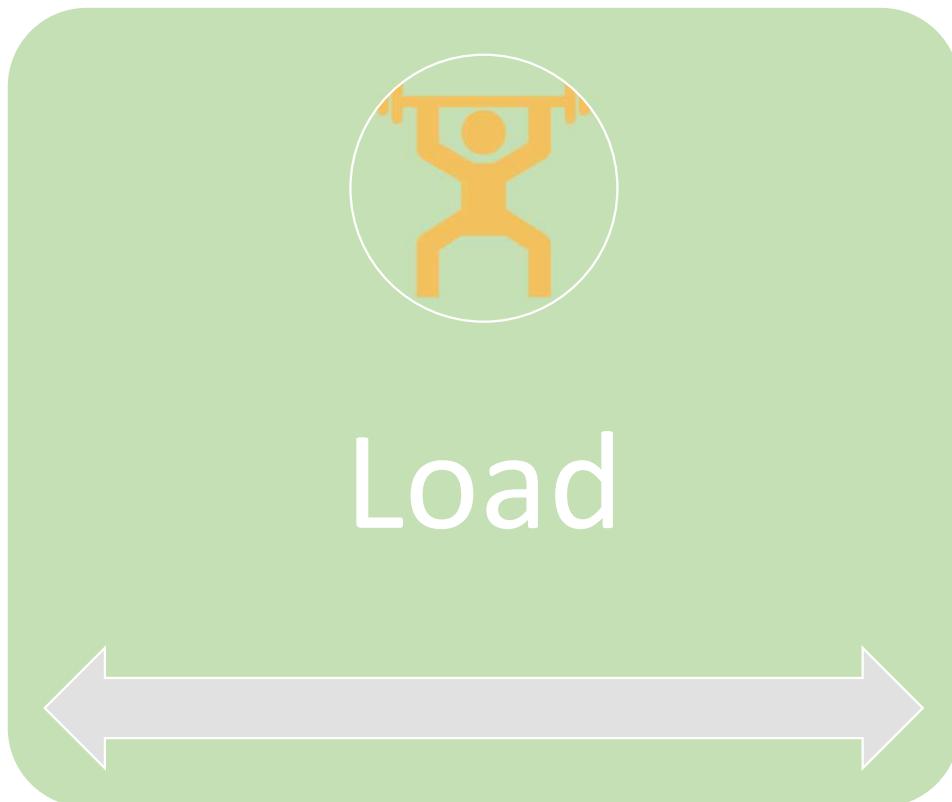
Amplitude



- **AMPLITUDE**
 - Amplitude of movement should replicate patient's activity / risk



Posterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS



- LOAD
 - Level of load / force should replicate patient's activity
 - Progressive Load
 - Weight room activities commence
 - Arc of motion may be limited

Posterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS

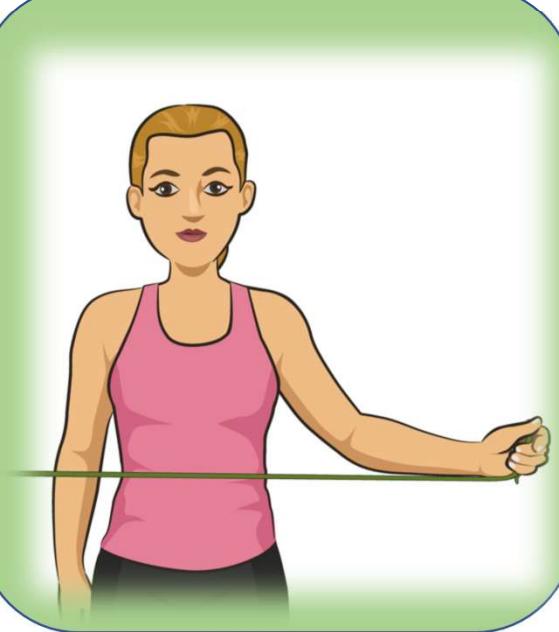


Speed



- SPEED

- Speed of movement should replicate patient's activity



Posterior Cuff Stage 3 - PALS



Posterior Rotator Cuff Protocol

ER at side through pain-free arc	No pace	30	50	70	90	120
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ER in frontal plane at 90° of abduction thru 0-90°	30 sec.	30	50	70	90	120
	holds					
	+					

ER in frontal plane at 135° of abduction thru 0- 90°	30 sec.	30	50	70	90	120
	holds					
	+					

Assuming a 90° arc of motion 30 bpm = 45°/sec, 90 bpm = 135°/sec, 120 bpm = 180°/sec

† 30 second holds with elastic band (blue/black) in the described position

Criteria to Progress

Speed – Stage 3

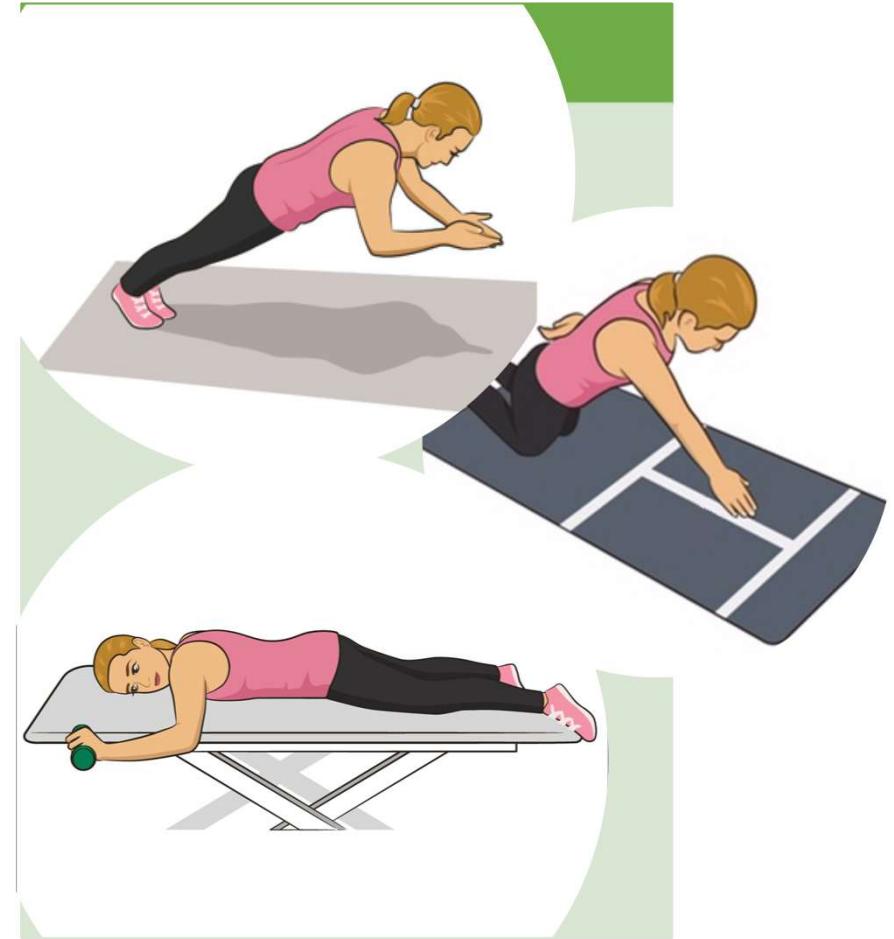
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Physical

- Strength
 - Hypertrophy
 - Endurance
- Control
 - Motor Pattern Integration
- Speed
 - Reaction Time
 - Expected (Eyes Open)
 - Unexpected (Eyes Closed)
 - Perturbations
 - Into Horizontal Flexion/Flexion/IR
 - Sudden load of infraspinatus



Criteria to Progress

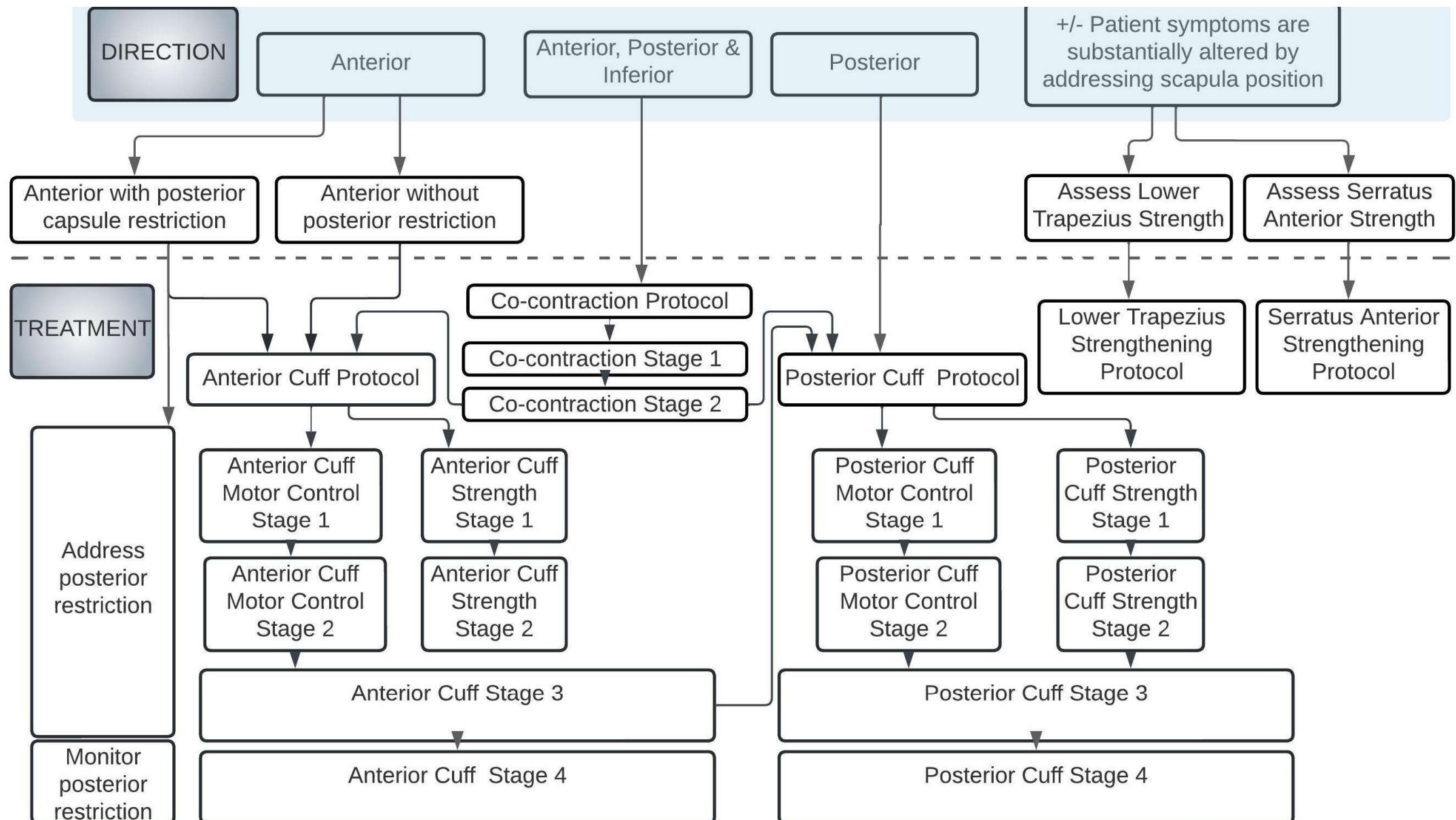
Perturbations – Stage 4

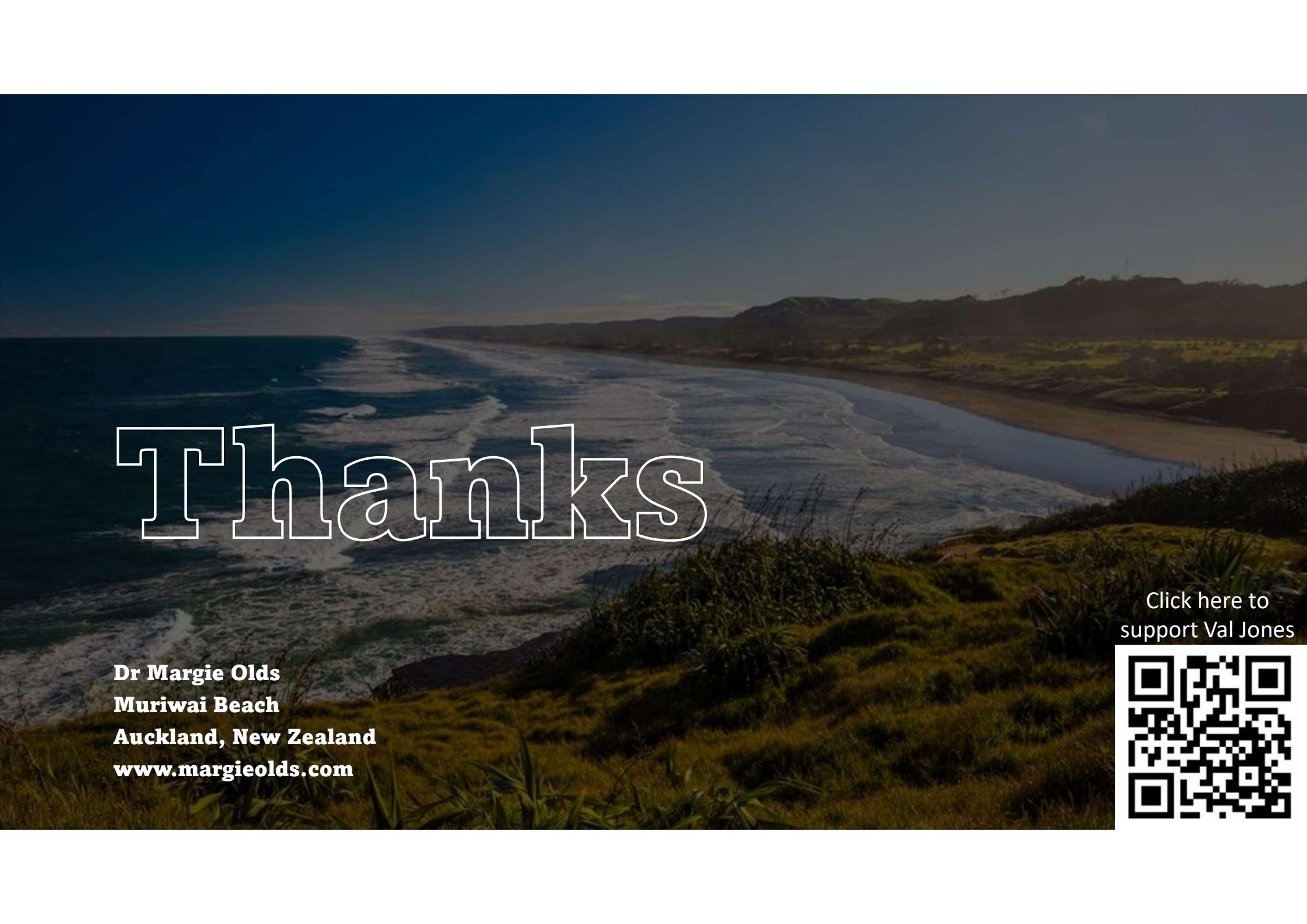
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**Summary:
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Thanks

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