

Understanding Frozen Shoulder

A Patient Information Pamphlet

Introduction:

We are providing you with important information about Frozen Shoulder. Please read this information sheet carefully and feel free to ask any questions or seek clarification from us.



What is Frozen Shoulder?

Frozen shoulder, also known as adhesive capsulitis, is a condition characterized by pain and stiffness in the shoulder joint. It typically develops gradually and can significantly limit the range of motion in the affected shoulder.

What are the causes and symptoms?

Causes

The exact cause of frozen shoulder is often unknown, but certain factors may increase the risk of developing this condition. These include:

- Previous shoulder injury or surgery.
- Prolonged immobility or lack of use of the shoulder joint.
- Certain medical conditions such as diabetes or thyroid disorders.

Symptoms

Common symptoms of frozen shoulder include:

- Pain or stiffness in the shoulder joint, particularly with movement.
- Difficulty raising the arm or reaching behind the back.
- Gradual onset of symptoms over time.
- Pain that may worsen at night.

Treatment Options:

Treatment for frozen shoulder typically involves a combination of conservative measures and, in some cases, medical interventions. These may include:

- Physical therapy to improve shoulder mobility and strength.
- Pain-relieving medications.
- Corticosteroid injections to reduce inflammation and alleviate pain.
- Joint distension (hydrodilatation) to stretch the shoulder capsule and improve range of motion.
- Manipulation under anesthesia to break up adhesions and restore mobility.



Managing and Preventing Frozen Shoulder:

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- Practice gentle stretching exercises to maintain shoulder mobility.
- Avoid activities that may exacerbate symptoms or cause further injury.
- Use heat packs or ice packs to reduce pain and inflammation as needed.
- Follow your healthcare provider's recommendations for treatment and rehabilitation.
- Maintain a healthy lifestyle and manage any underlying medical conditions that may contribute to frozen shoulder.

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

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