



# Zones 2-5 Flexor tendon repair Protocol

Timeline	Splint	Therapeutic Exercise	Precautions	Other
Week 0-3	<p>Dorsal Blocking Splint</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wrist neutral</li> <li>MCP's 50° flexion</li> <li>IP's in full extension</li> </ol> <p>Reminder: If FDP of MF, RF, or SF repaired, must include all three digits in splint.</p>	<p>Home exercise program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Passive composite full fist</li> <li>Passive DIP extension maintaining MCP and PIP in flexion</li> <li>Block MCP in full flexion and actively extend IP's</li> <li>Passive DIP flexion and active extension</li> <li>Passive PIP flexion and active extension</li> <li>Isolated FDS glide of unaffected fingers</li> <li>Passive (or gravity assisted) wrist flexion, followed by active extension to splint limits.</li> </ol> <p>Therapist performs with patient in clinic:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove splint: passive wrist extension with fingers flexed.</li> <li>Passive wrist flexion with passive hook fisting to prevent intrinsic tightness</li> </ol> <p><b>Early Active Motion Protocol:</b></p> <p>*If cleared by MD <b>and</b> suture of adequate strength (four strand core repair with epitendinous suture augmentation).</p> <p>Reminders: Severe edema increases tendon drag and likelihood of rupture. Therefore, wait until 48-72 hours post-op prior to initiating ROM.</p> <p>Tensile strength of tendons decreases from days 5 to 15.</p> <p>Place/hold digital flexion with wrist extended in hook, straight and full fist positions.</p>	<p>No active flexion of involved digits unless cleared for early active motion (EAM).</p> <p>No passive wrist extension.</p> <p>No passive finger extension, except as noted above.</p> <p>No functional use of involved hand.</p>	<p>Wound care</p> <p>Edema control</p> <p>Scar massage</p> <p>Note: If pulley was repaired, may need pulley ring fabricated.</p>