

ORTHOPAEDIC PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT

TOTAL WRIST REPLACEMENT



Aim Decrease pain, improve function and increase stability

In-Patient

POP for 2 weeks Encourage active finger and hand movements as able

2 weeks

Re-assess: If lax, splint for 4 weeks more allowing full MCP joint movement

If stiff, removable splint provided and gentle wrist movements started, no functional

exercises

4 weeks

Remove POP/splint Gradually increase active movements and start functional activities

6 weeks +

Re-education of wrist extension i.e. differentiation between finger and wrist extensors No weight bearing on joint at all Heavy, functional work to be done only when wearing splint Advised against impact loading and repetitive forceful hand activity

Start OT

Expected Outcome

Significant pain relief ROM flex – ext 20-30 degrees Abduction 5 degrees Adduction 20 degrees