

SERA Shoulder Fracture

Standard Protocol Exercises: Week 4

Instructions:

1. Refer to the exercise sheet provided by your therapist.
2. From the list below, click on the exercise(s) that your therapist has selected for you.
3. Refer to the exercise instructions and pictures to do your exercise(s).
4. Click on the "[Back to top](#)" button at the bottom right-hand corner of the page to return to this list for your next exercise.

Reminder: Please only do the exercises specifically prescribed to you by your therapist to prevent injury.

1. Shoulder blade exercises

- 1A. Shoulder shrug (circles)
- 1B. Scapula squeeze

2. Neck stretches & strengthening exercises

- 2A. Upper trapezius stretch
- 2B. Levator scapulae stretch
- 2C. Deep Neck Flexor Strengthening – Chin Tuck

3. Shoulder pendulum exercises

- 3A. Shoulder pendulum – forward / backward
- 3B. Shoulder pendulum – side to side
- 3C. Shoulder pendulum – circles

4. Shoulder passive range of motion exercises in two directions (up to 90 degrees)

- 4A. Shoulder flexion to 90 degrees with cradle (lying)
- 4B. Shoulder flexion to 90 degrees with cradle (sitting)
- 4C. Shoulder abduction to 90 degrees with cradle (lying)
- 4D. Shoulder abduction to 90 degrees with cradle (sitting)

5. Passive / Active range of motion exercises for the rest of the arm (elbow, forearm, wrist & fingers)

Passive movement:

- 5A. Elbow flexion
- 5B. Elbow extension
- 5C. Forearm pronation
- 5D. Forearm supination
- 5E. Wrist flexion / extension
- 5F. Fingers composite flexion / extension

Active movement:

- 5G. Elbow flexion / extension
- 5H. Forearm pronation
- 5I. Forearm supination
- 5J. Wrist flexion/extension
- 5K. Fingers composite flexion / extension – finger pumping

6. Gentle strengthening exercises for wrist and fingers

- 6A. Gentle putty / soft sponge / stress ball / rolled up towel grip

7. [NEW!] Shoulder passive range of motion exercises: external rotation to neutral

- 7A. Shoulder external rotation to neutral

1A. Shoulder Shrug (Circles)

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Active Movement



Circular Motion

1. Start in a relaxed position in sitting / standing.
2. Raise both shoulders towards your ears.
3. Bring your shoulders upwards then backwards, squeezing the muscles between your shoulder blades.
4. Bring your shoulders down, away from your ears.
5. Bring your shoulders forwards to the starting position, allowing the muscles between your shoulder blades to slowly relax.
6. Repeat these steps to move your shoulders in a circular manner.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

1B. Scapula Squeeze

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Strengthening



1. Sit / Stand with your back straight.

2. Squeeze your shoulder blades together in an inwards and downwards direction.

3. Hold for 10 seconds.

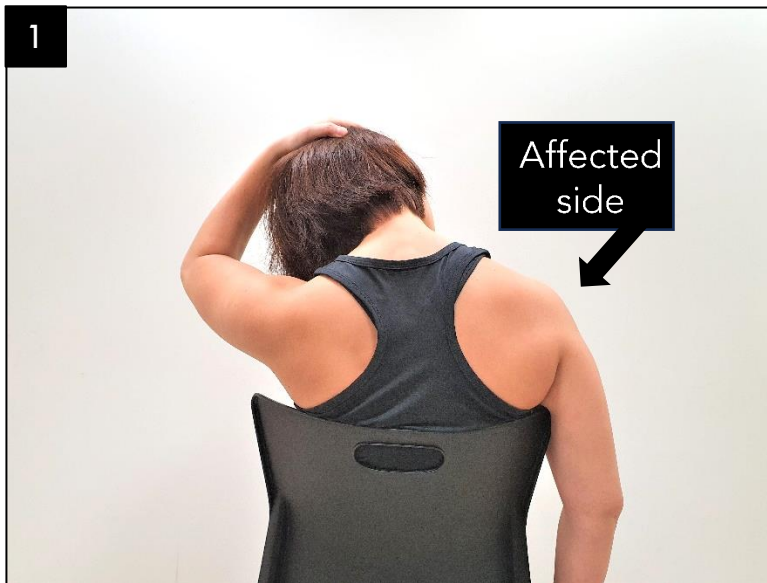


[\[Back to top\]](#)

2A. Upper Trapezius Stretch

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Stretch



1. In a sitting / standing position, tilt your head to your unaffected side to bring your ear closer to your shoulder.
2. In this position, turn your neck to look up to the ceiling.
3. Place your hand (*unaffected side*) on top of your head and gently pull your head downward.
4. Hold for 10 seconds.

Note: You should feel a stretch along the side of your neck, and at the top of your shoulder on the affected side.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

2B. Levator Scapulae Stretch

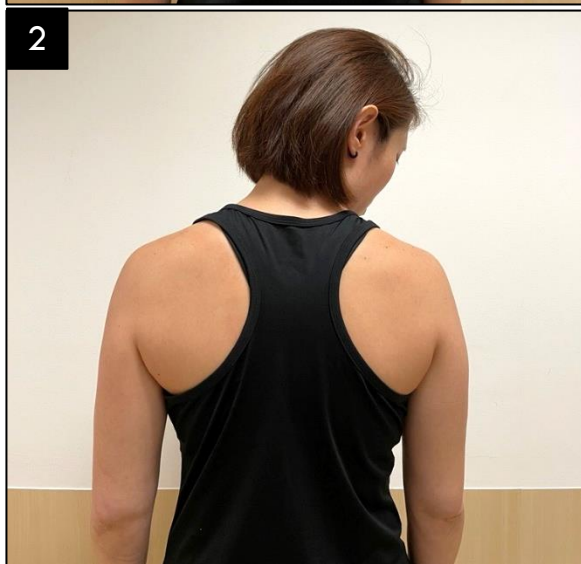
Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Stretch



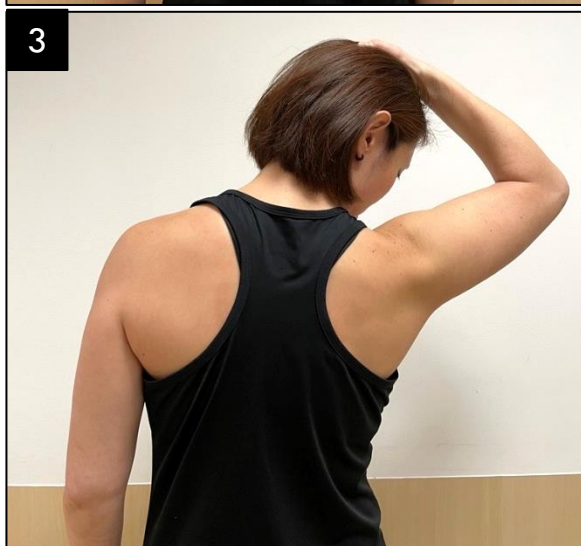
1. In a sitting / standing position, turn your head 45° to your unaffected side and look downwards.

2. Place your hand (*unaffected side*) on top of your head, and gently pull your head downwards.



3. Hold for 10 seconds.

Note: You should feel a stretch along your neck and shoulder of the affected side.

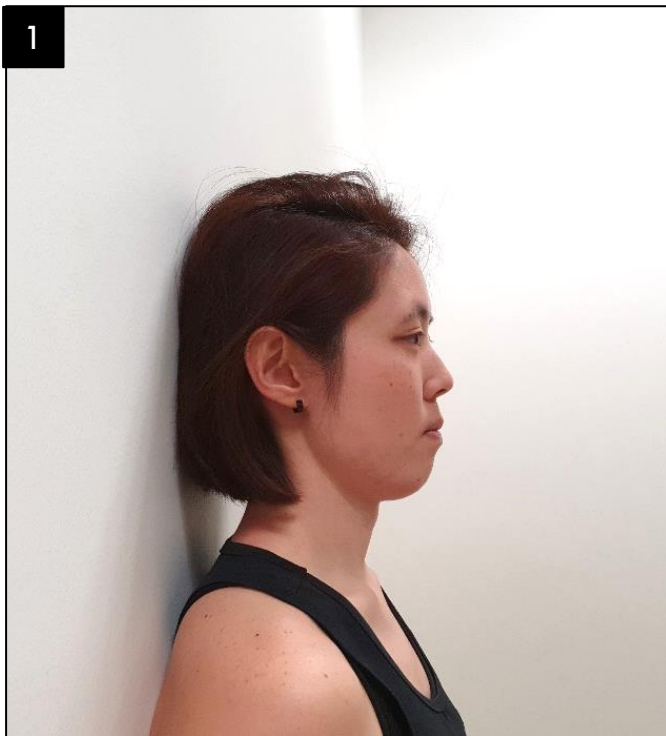


[\[Back to top\]](#)

2C. Deep Neck Flexor Strengthening (Chin Tuck)

Position: Standing

Type: Strengthening



1. Stand with your head and back against a wall.
2. Bring your chin inwards towards the wall, as if performing a gentle nod.
3. Hold for 10 seconds.

Note: Keep your jaw relaxed and keep the back of your head against the wall throughout the movement.



[\[Back to top\]](#)

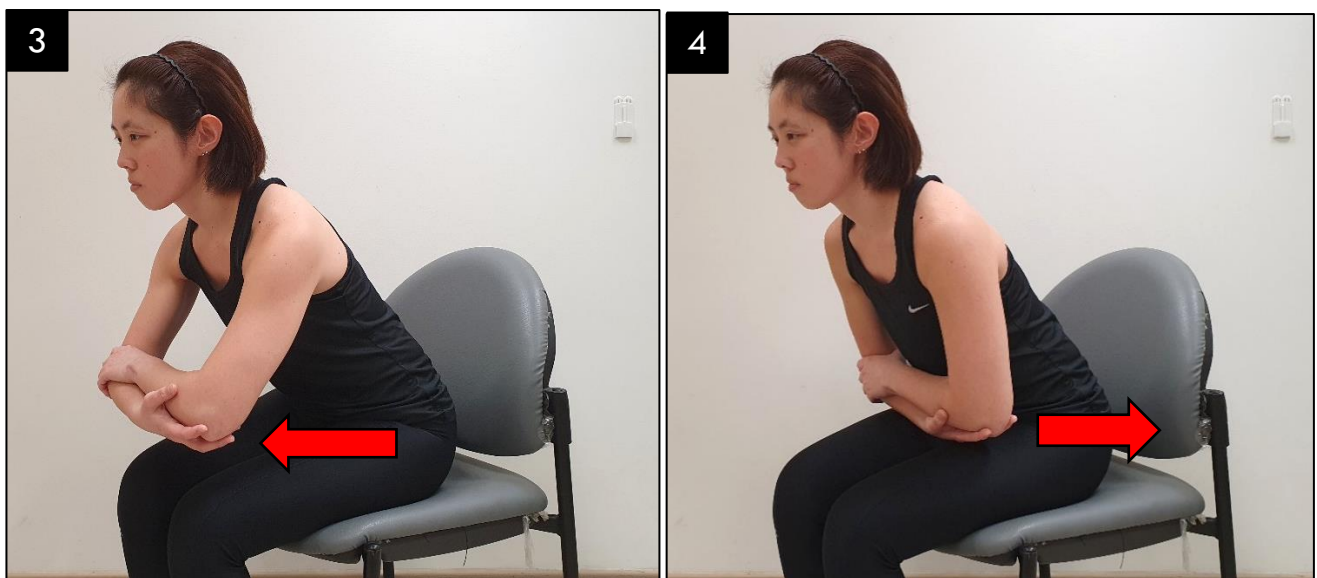
3A. Shoulder Pendulum – Forward / Backward

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



1. In a sitting / standing position, use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to hold and support your affected arm from the elbow to the wrist.
2. Lean slightly forward, allowing your affected arm to relax while providing support with your unaffected arm.



3. Use your unaffected arm to gently move your affected arm in a forward and backward motion.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

3B. Shoulder Pendulum – Side to Side

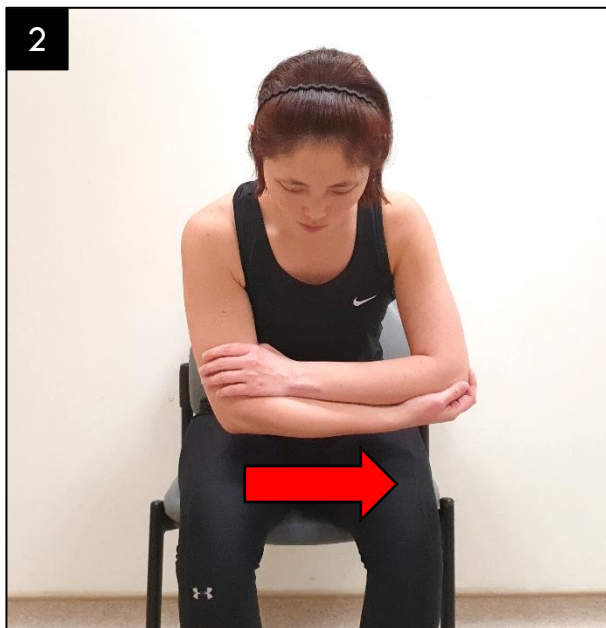
Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



1. In a sitting / standing position, use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to hold and support your affected arm from the elbow to the wrist.

2. Lean slightly forward, allowing your affected arm to relax while providing support with your unaffected arm.



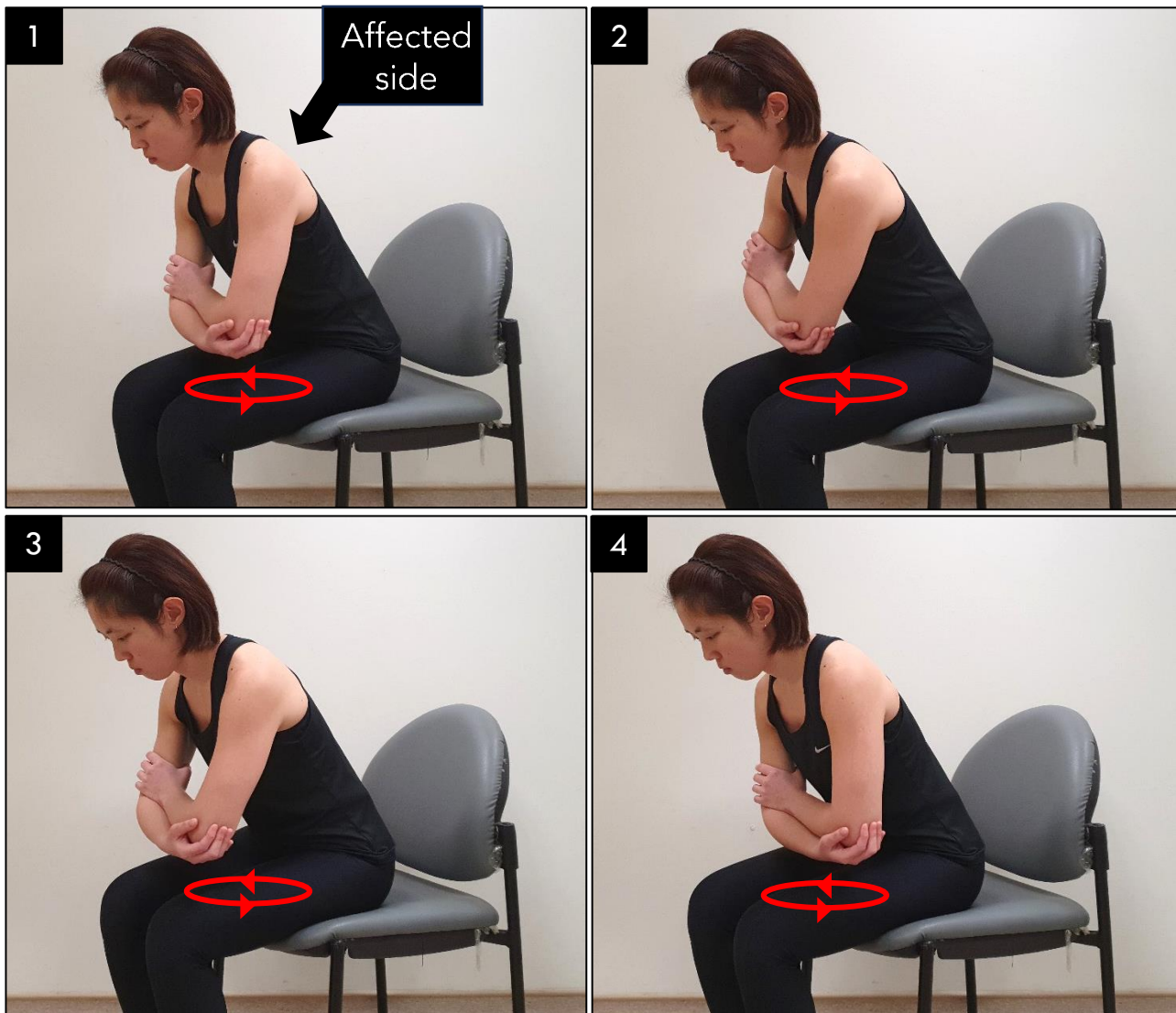
3. Use your unaffected arm to gently move your affected arm from side to side.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

3C. Shoulder Pendulum – Circles

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



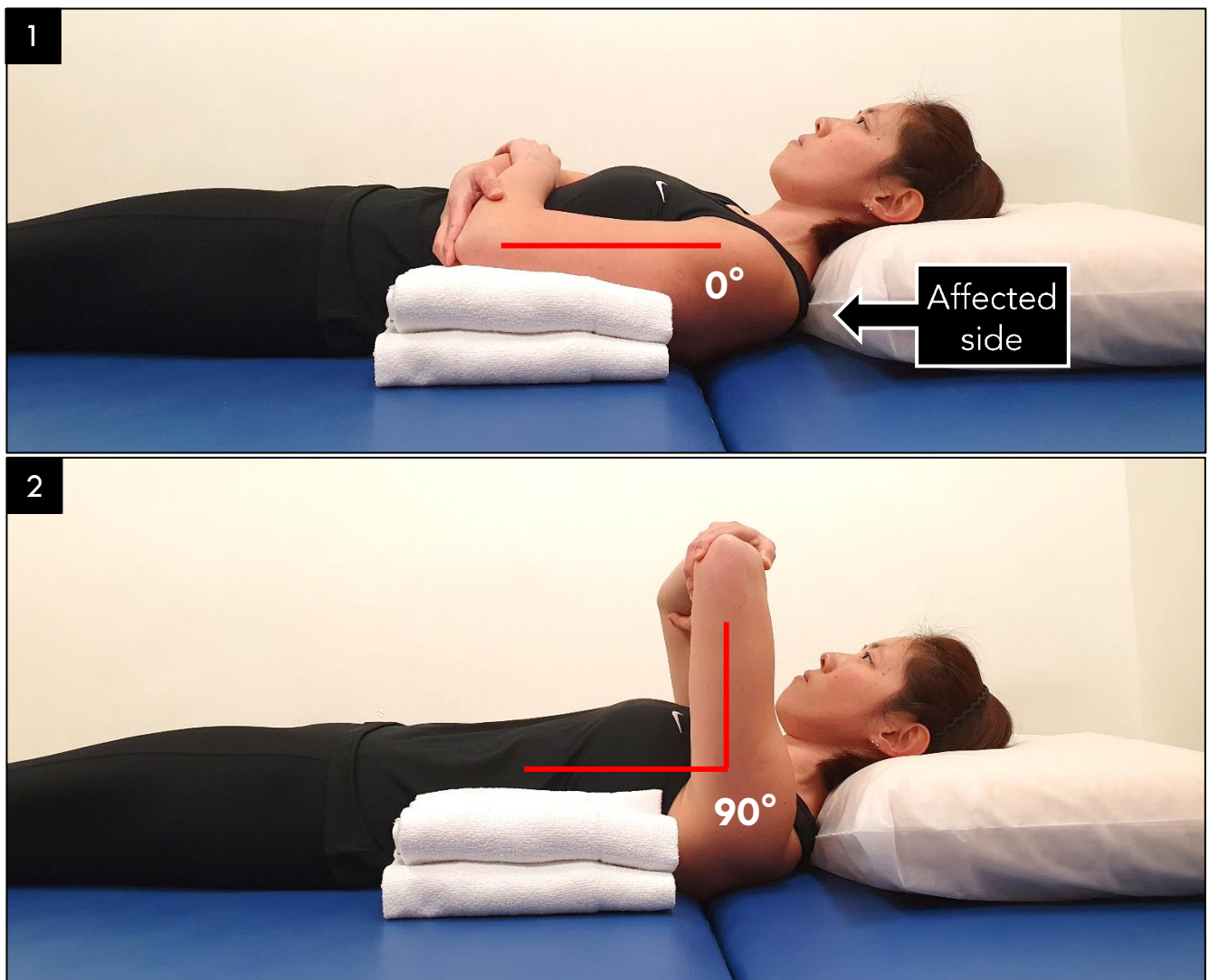
1. In a sitting / standing position, use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to hold and support your affected arm from the elbow to the wrist.
2. Lean slightly forward, allowing your affected arm to relax while providing support with your unaffected arm.
3. Use your unaffected side to gently move your affected arm in a circular motion.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

4A. Shoulder Flexion to 90 Degrees with Cradle (Lying)

Position: Lying

Type: Passive Movement



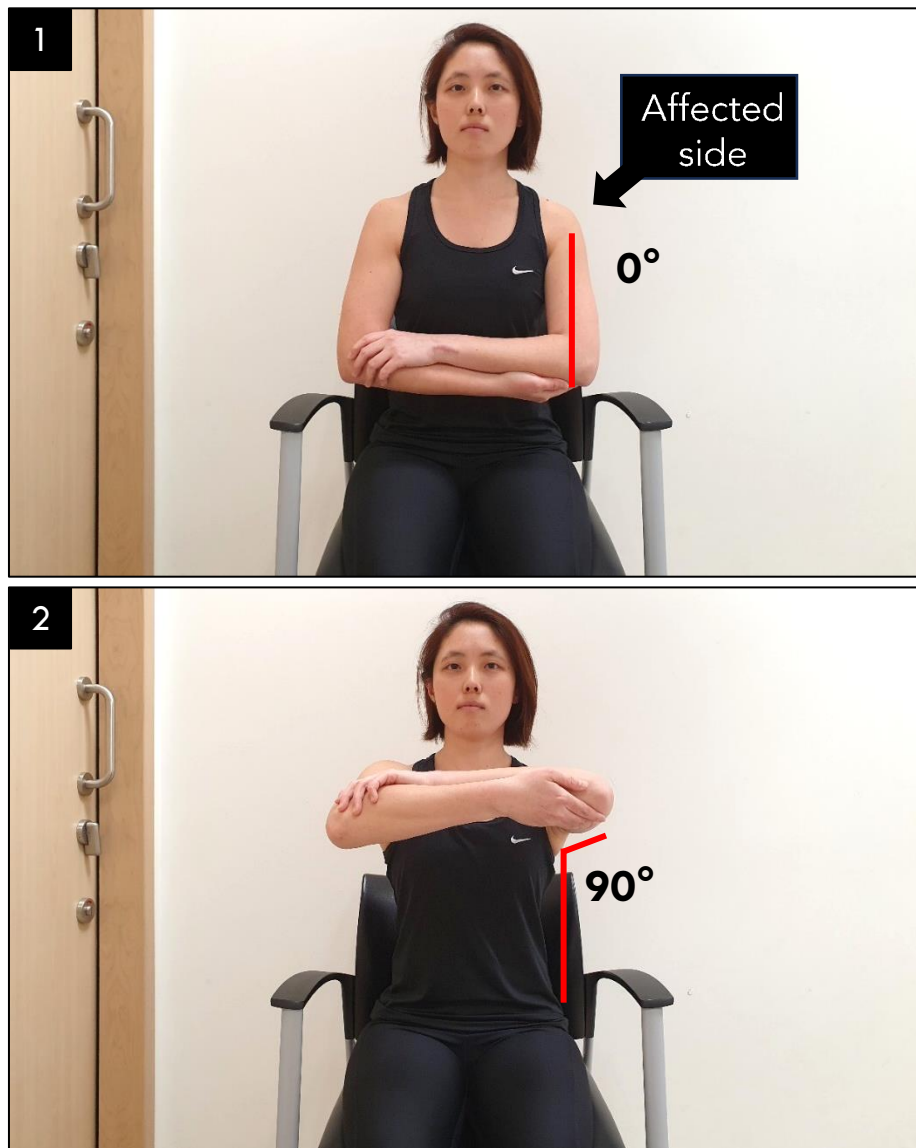
1. Lie on your back with your elbow (*affected side*) bent and forearm resting on your body.
2. Use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to hold your forearm and lift it up slowly, as much as you can tolerate, **up to shoulder level (90°)**.
3. Slowly lower your forearm down to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

4B. Shoulder Flexion to 90 Degrees with Cradle (Sitting)

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



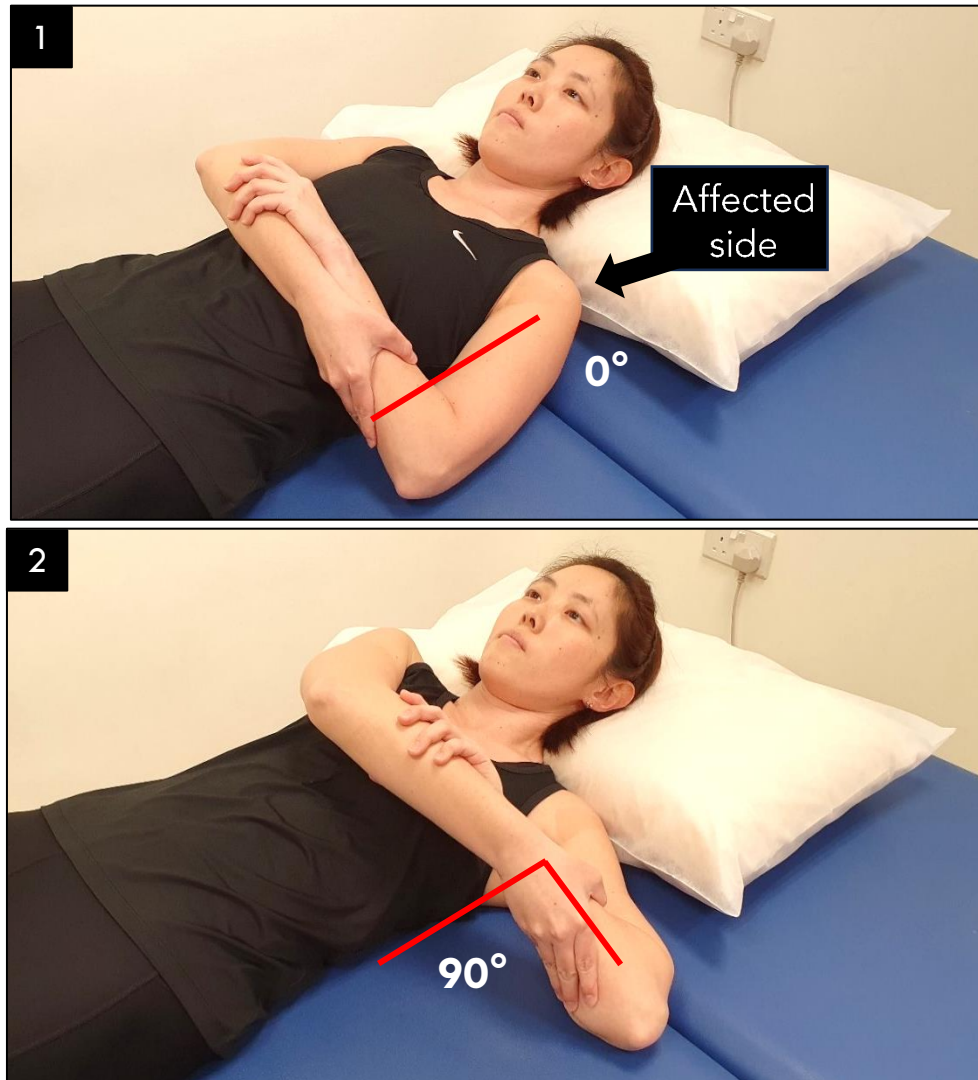
1. Sit / Stand with your elbow (*affected side*) bent at 90° and forearm resting against your body.
2. Use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to hold and support your forearm and lift it up slowly, as much as you can tolerate, **up to shoulder level (90°)**.
3. Slowly lower your forearm down to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

4C. Shoulder Abduction to 90 Degrees with Cradle (Lying)

Position: Lying

Type: Passive Movement



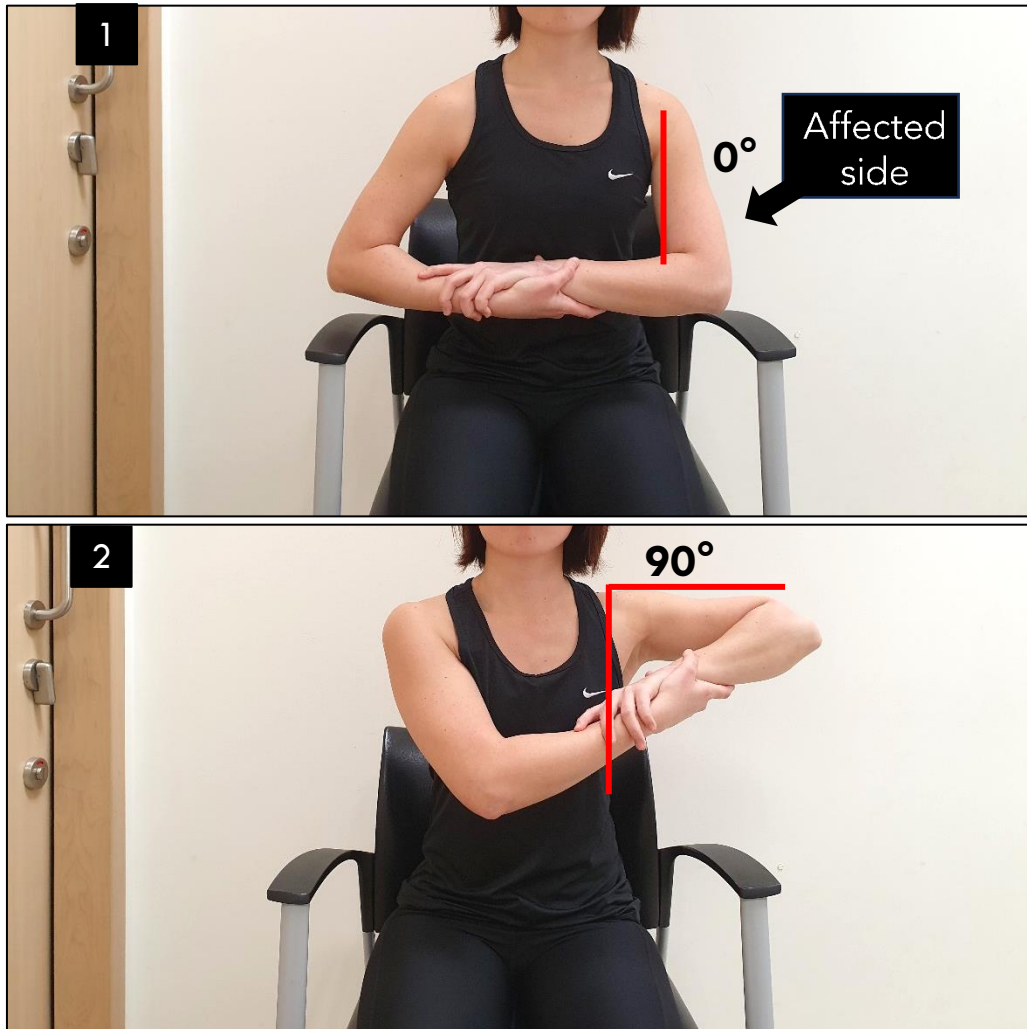
1. Lie on your back with your elbow (*affected side*) bent at 90° and forearm resting on your body.
2. Use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to hold and support your forearm and move your elbow slowly up and out to the side, as much as you can tolerate, **up to shoulder level (90°)**.
3. Slowly lower your forearm down to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

4D. Shoulder Abduction to 90 Degrees with Cradle (Sitting)

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



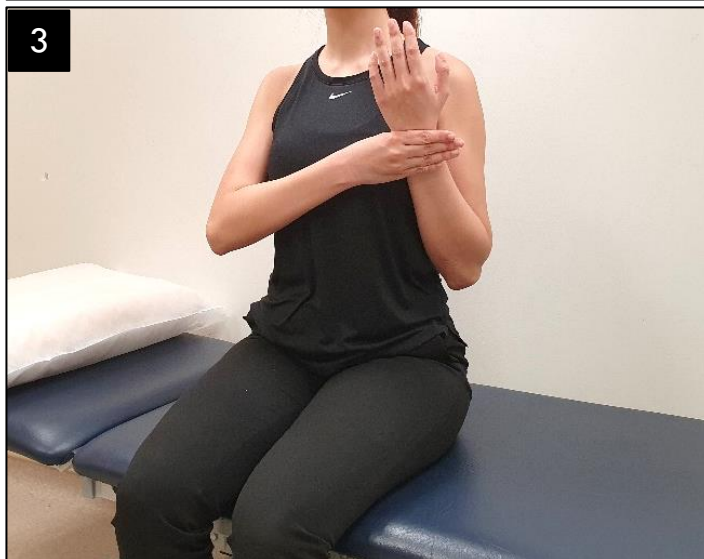
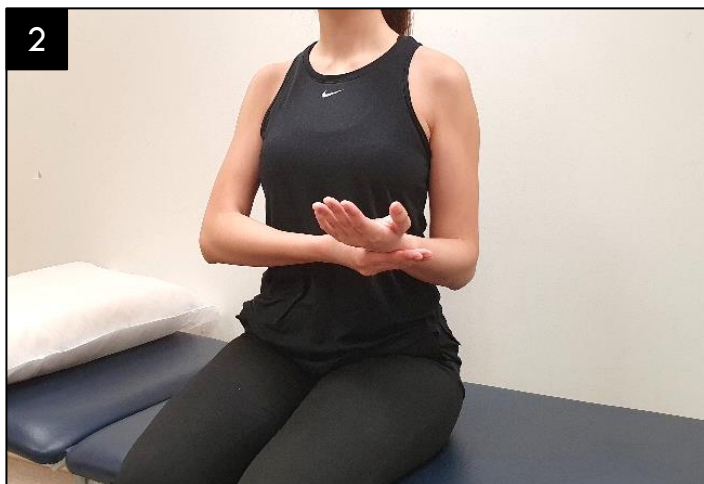
1. Sit / Stand with your elbow (*affected side*) bent at 90° and forearm resting against your body.
2. Use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to hold and support your forearm and lift it slowly up sideways, as much as you can tolerate, up to shoulder level (90°).
3. Slowly lower your forearm down to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

5A. Elbow Flexion

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



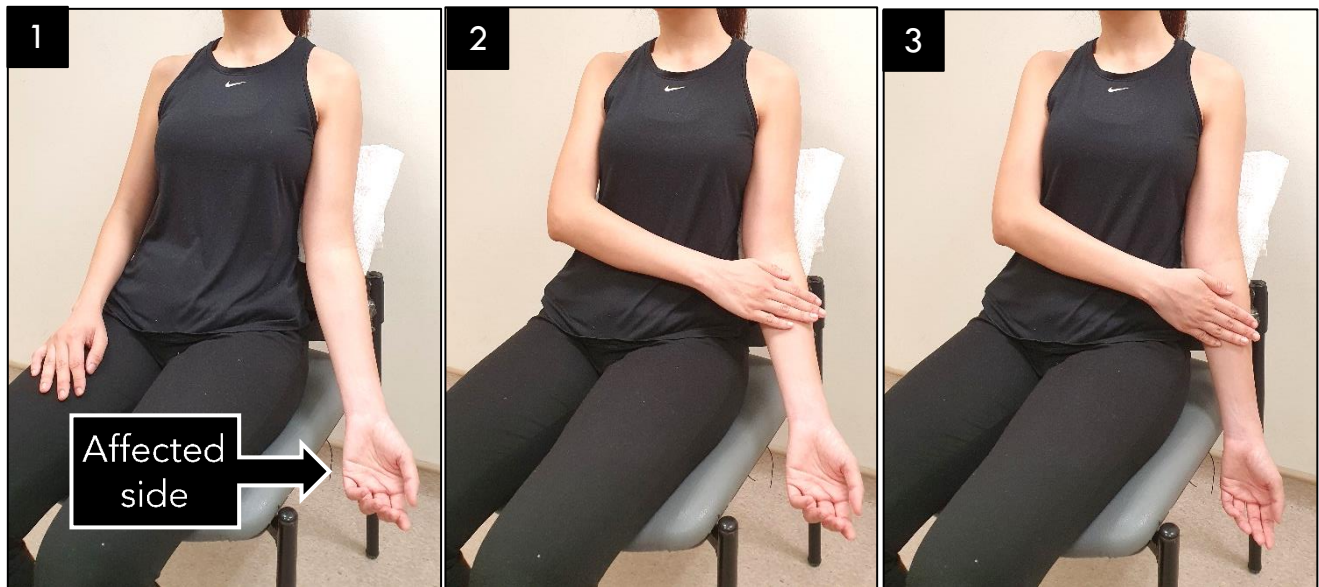
1. In a sitting / standing position, keep your arm (*affected side*) by the side of your body.
2. Hold onto the wrist of the affected arm with your other hand (*unaffected side*).
3. Use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to help bend your elbow (*affected side*) towards your chest until you feel a stretch.
4. Hold this position for 5-10 seconds.
5. Slowly return to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

5B. Elbow Extension

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



1. In a sitting / standing position, lean against a stable surface (e.g., wall or backrest of a chair).
2. Place a folded towel behind your elbow (*affected side*).
3. Use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to apply pressure at the forearm (*affected side*) to push your elbow into a straightened position.
4. Hold this position for 5-10 seconds.
5. Slowly return to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

5C. Forearm Pronation

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



1. In a sitting / standing position, bend your elbow to 90° and hold your arm close to the side of your body.
2. Hold onto your forearm near the wrist joint (*affected side*) with your other hand.
3. Use your hand (*unaffected side*) to **rotate your forearm** to turn your palm (*affected side*) facing **downward** while keeping your arm close to your body.
4. Hold this position for 5-10 seconds.
5. Slowly return to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

5D. Forearm Supination

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



1. In a sitting / standing position, bend your elbow to 90° and hold your arm close to the side of your body.
2. Hold onto the forearm (*affected side*) near the wrist joint with your other hand.
3. Use your hand (*unaffected side*) to **rotate your forearm** to turn your palm (*affected side*) to **face upward**, keeping your arm close to your body.
4. Hold this position for 5-10 seconds.
5. Slowly return to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

5E. Wrist Flexion / Extension

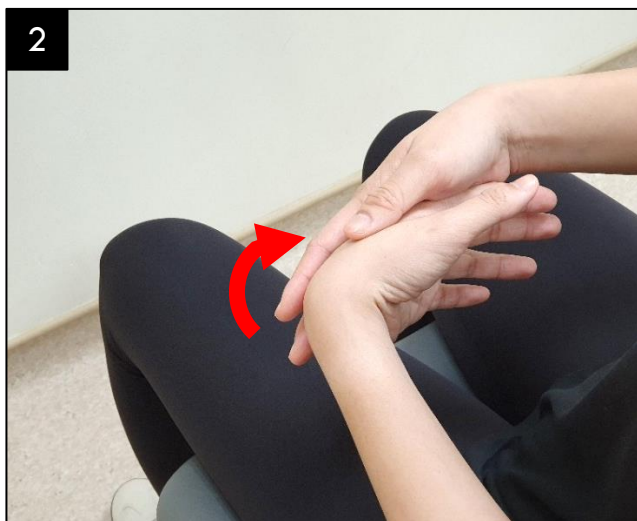
Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



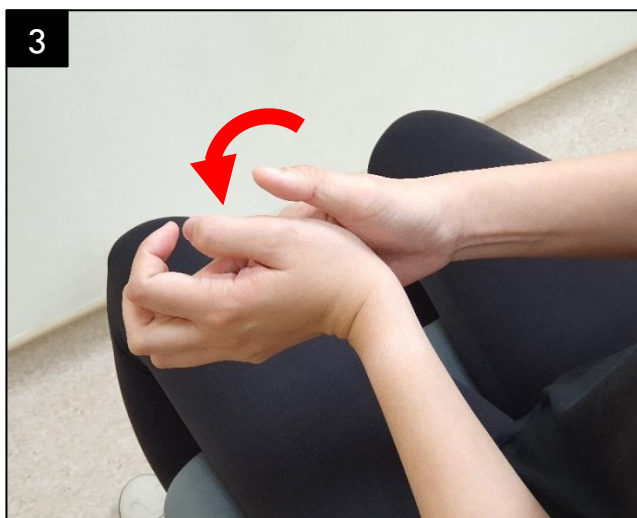
1. In a sitting / standing position, start with your elbow (*affected side*) bent.
2. Keep your wrist and fingers relaxed.

Wrist flexion



3. Use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to gently stretch your wrist (*affected side*) forward.
4. Hold this position for 5-10 seconds.
5. Slowly return to the starting position.

Wrist extension



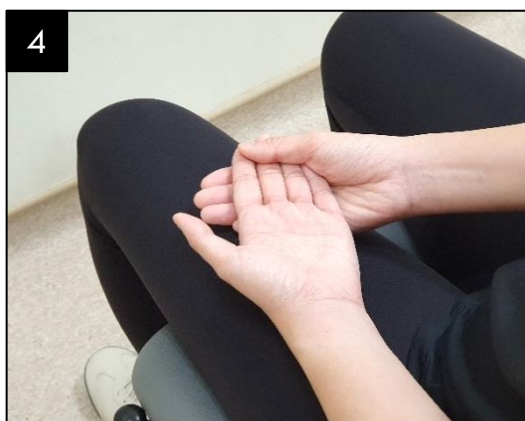
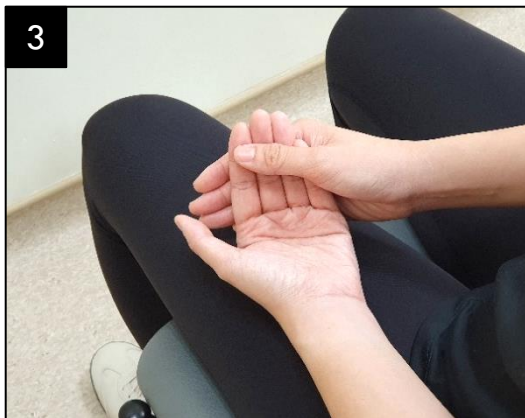
3. Use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to gently stretch your wrist (*affected side*) backward.
4. Hold this position for 5-10 seconds.
5. Slowly return to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

5F. Fingers Composite Flexion / Extension

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



Fingers flexion

1. In a sitting / standing position, start with your fingers (*affected side*) relaxed.
2. Use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to **bend the fingers towards your palm** till they form a fist.
3. Hold this position for 5-10 seconds.
4. Slowly return to the starting position.

Fingers extension

1. In a sitting / standing position, start with your fingers (*affected side*) relaxed.
2. Use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to **pull your fingers backward to straighten them**.
3. Hold this position for 5-10 seconds.
4. Slowly return to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

5G. Elbow Flexion / Extension

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Active Movement



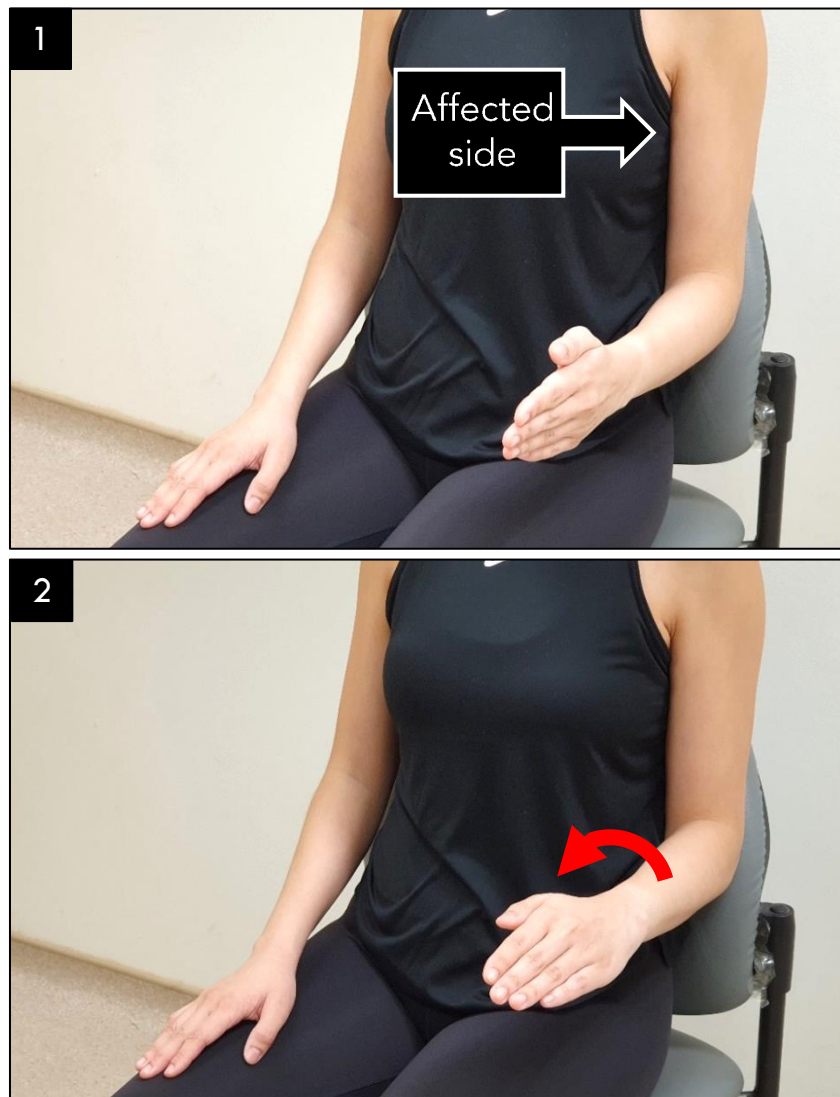
1. In a sitting / standing position, lean against a stable surface (e.g., wall or backrest of a chair).
2. Place a folded towel behind your arm (*affected side*) and the stable surface.
3. Bend your elbow **towards your chest**. Ensure that the towel stays in place.
4. Straighten your elbow.
5. Hold each position for 3-5 seconds.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

5H. Forearm Pronation

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Active Movement



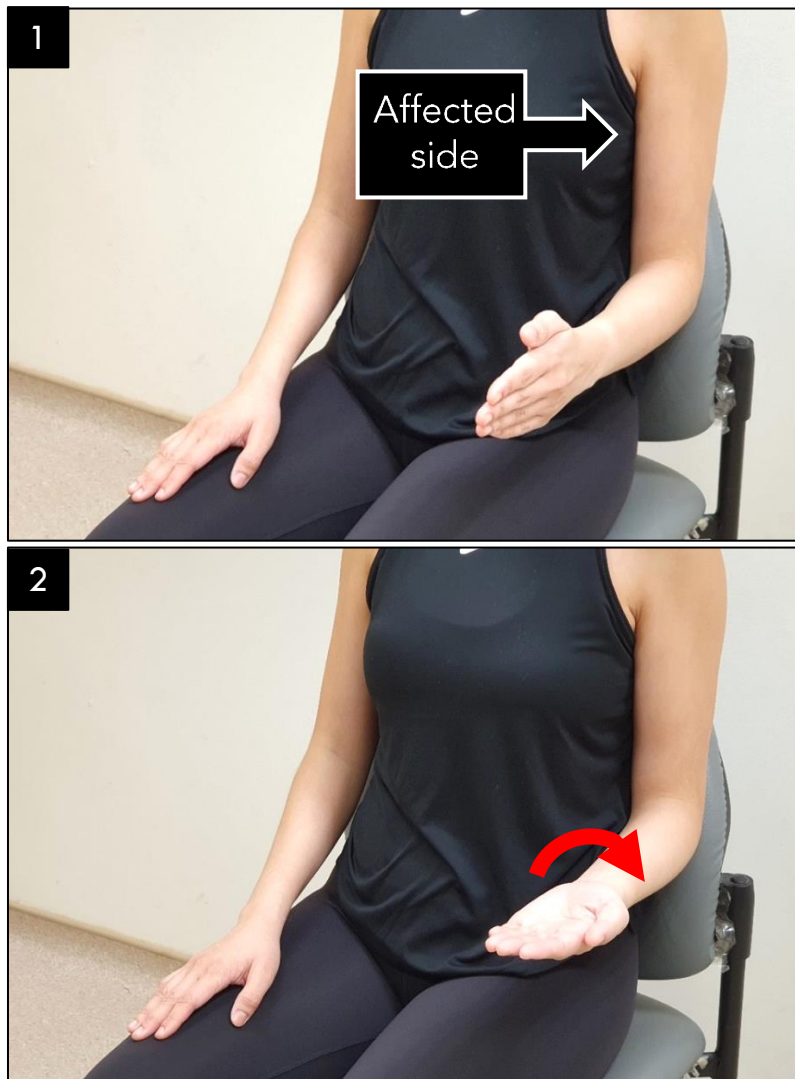
1. In a sitting / standing position, bend your elbow to 90° and hold your arm (*affected side*) close to the side of your body.
2. Rotate your forearm to turn your palm facing downward while keeping your arm close to your body.
3. Hold this position for 3-5 seconds.
4. Slowly return to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

5I. Forearm Supination

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Active Movement



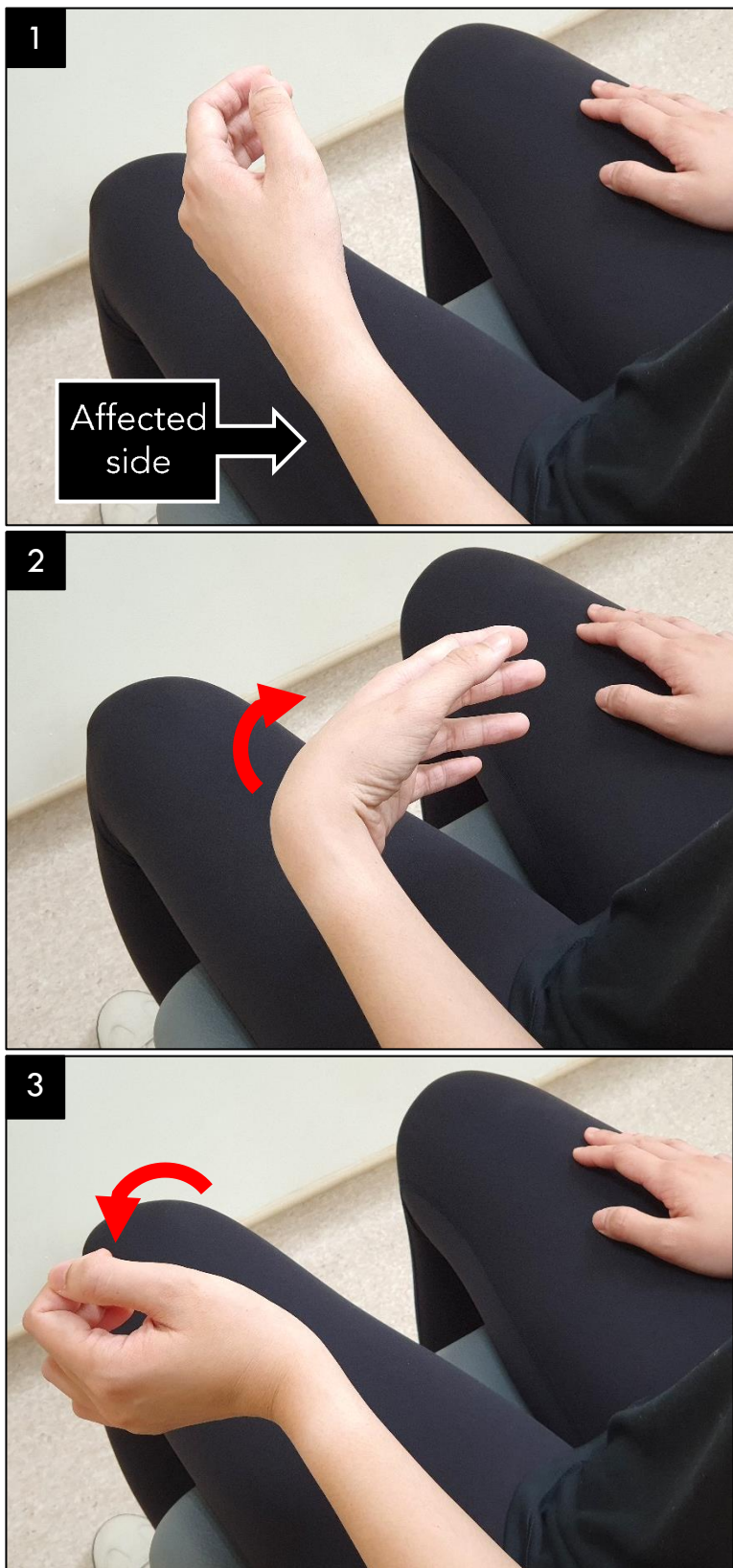
1. In a sitting / standing position, bend your elbow to 90° and hold your arm (*affected side*) close to the side of your body.
2. Rotate your forearm to turn your palm to face upward while keeping your arm close to your body.
3. Hold this position for 3-5 seconds.
4. Slowly return to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

5J. Wrist Flexion / Extension

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Active Movement



In a sitting / standing position, bend your elbow to 90° and hold your arm (*affected side*) close to the side of your body.

Wrist flexion

1. Bend your wrist **forward** with your fingers relaxed.
2. Hold this position for 3-5 seconds.
3. Slowly return to the starting position.

Wrist extension

1. Bend your wrist **backward** with your fingers relaxed.
2. Hold this position for 3-5 seconds.
3. Slowly return to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

5K. Fingers Composite Flexion / Extension – Finger Pumping

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Active Movement



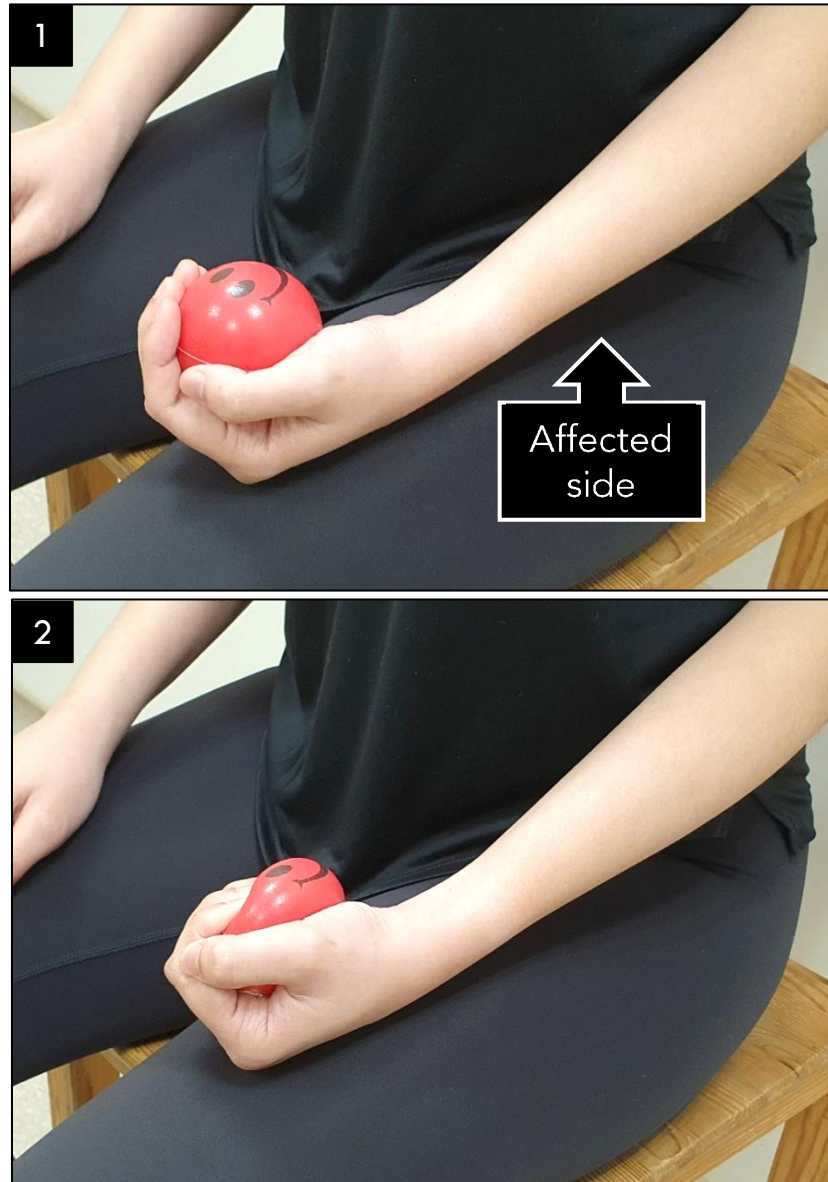
1. In a sitting / standing position, make a fist by bending all your fingers as much as possible.
2. Hold this position for 3-5 seconds.
3. Open your fingers slowly to return to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

6A. Gentle Putty / Soft Sponge / Stress Ball / Rolled Up Towel Grip

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Strengthening



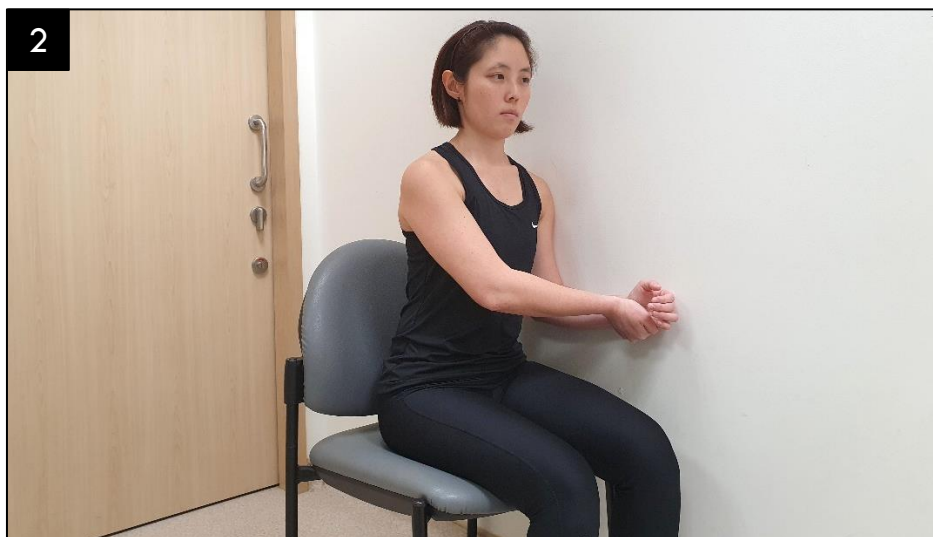
1. In a sitting / standing position, place a soft sponge, stress ball or a rolled-up towel in your hand (*affected side*).
2. Grip the selected object and hold that position for 3-5 seconds.
3. Relax your grip slowly.

[\[Back to top\]](#)

7A. Shoulder External Rotation to Neutral

Position: Sitting / Standing

Type: Passive Movement



1. Sit / Stand next to a wall with your elbow (*affected side*) bent to 90° and forearm resting across your body.
2. Keeping your elbow against the side of your body, use your other hand (*unaffected side*) to support at the wrist and move your forearm away from your body until it touches the wall.
3. Slowly bring your forearm back to the starting position.

[\[Back to top\]](#)