

# Biceps Tendon Injury Rehabilitation Exercises



Active elbow flexion and extension



Biceps stretch



Biceps curl



Single-arm shoulder flexion



Resisted shoulder internal rotation



Side-lying external rotation

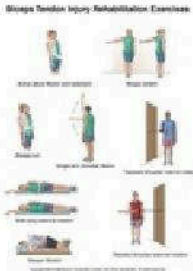


Resisted shoulder external rotation



Sleeper Stretch

## BICEPS TENDON INJURY EXERCISES



View image

You may do these exercises right away. If any exercise increases your pain, stop doing it. Avoid overhead lifting while your tendon is healing.

- **Active elbow flexion and extension:** Gently bring the palm of the hand on your injured side up toward your shoulder, bending your elbow as much as you can. Then straighten your elbow as far as you can. Repeat 15 times. Do 2 sets of 15.
- **Biceps stretch:** Stand facing a wall (about 6 inches, or 15 centimeters, away from the wall). Raise your injured arm out to your side and place the thumb side of your hand against the wall (palm down). Keep your arm straight. Rotate your body in the opposite direction of the raised arm until you feel a stretch in your biceps.

Hold 15 seconds. Repeat 3 times.

- **Biceps curl:** Stand and hold a 5- to 8-pound weight in your hand. If you do not have a weight, use a soup can or hammer. Bend your elbow and bring your hand (palm up) toward your shoulder. Hold 5 seconds. Slowly straighten your arm and return to your starting position. Do 2 sets of 8 to 12.
- **Single-arm shoulder flexion:** Stand with your injured arm hanging down at your side. Keeping your arm straight, bring your arm forward and up toward the ceiling. Hold this position for 5 seconds. Do 2 sets of 8 to 12. As this exercise becomes easier, add a weight.
- **Resisted shoulder internal rotation:** Stand sideways next to a door with your injured arm closest to the door. Tie a knot in the end of the tubing and shut the knot in the door at waist level. Hold the other end of the tubing with the hand of your injured arm. Bend the elbow of your injured arm 90 degrees. Keeping your elbow in at your side, rotate your forearm across your body and then slowly back to the starting position. Make sure you keep your forearm parallel to the floor. Do 2 sets of 8 to 12.
- **Resisted shoulder external rotation:** Stand sideways next to a door with your injured arm farther from the door. Tie a knot in the end of the tubing and shut the knot in the door at waist level. Hold the other end of the tubing with the hand of your injured arm. Rest the hand of your injured arm across your stomach. Keeping your elbow in at your side, rotate your arm outward and away from your waist. Slowly return your arm to the starting position. Make sure you keep your elbow bent 90 degrees and your forearm parallel to the floor. Repeat 10 times. Build up to 2 sets of 15.
- **Side-lying external rotation:** Lie on your uninjured side with your injured arm at your side and your elbow bent 90 degrees. Keeping your elbow against your side, raise your forearm toward the ceiling and hold for 2 seconds. Slowly lower your arm. Do 2 sets of 15. You can start doing this exercise holding a soup can or light weight and gradually increase the weight as long as there is no pain.
- **Sleeper stretch:** Lie on your injured side with your hips and knees flexed and your arm straight out in front of you. Bend the elbow on your injured side to a right angle so that your fingers are pointing toward the ceiling. Then use your other hand to gently push your arm down toward the floor. Keep your shoulder blades lightly squeezed together as you do this exercise. Hold the stretch for 30 seconds. Repeat 3 times.

Developed by RelayHealth.



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