

Holladay Physical Medicine

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This Information is about this condition in general. Every individual has a unique presentation. Once you understand this information, consult the doctor on any specific questions about your condition.

Epicondylitis

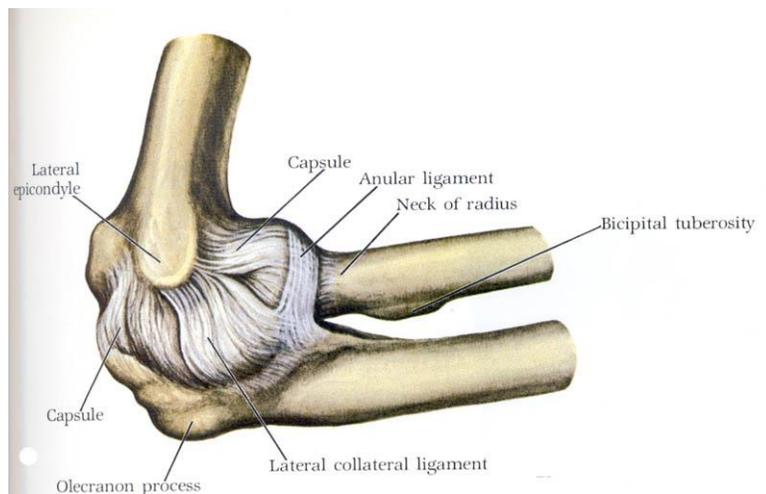
Epicondylitis is a condition when the outer or inner part of the elbow becomes painful and tender, usually as a result of a specific strain, overuse, or a direct bang. Sometimes no specific cause is found. Sometimes called Tennis Elbow on the outer side and Golfer's Elbow which affects the other side of the elbow.

Symptoms

The outer part of the elbow is painful and tender to touch. Movements of the elbow, and also movements which involve lifting, with the hand on top, hurt.

Causes

Although called tennis elbow, lateral epicondylitis is much more commonly seen in people who are over using their arm doing something else. It could equally well be called "plasterer's elbow" or "mechanic's elbow" or "painter's elbow".



The most common cause is over use of the muscles which are attached to the bone at this part of the elbow. That is to say, the muscles which pull the hand backwards (the wrist extensors). All the extensor muscles of the hand attach to the elbow at the outer part (the lateral epicondyle). If they are strained or over used they become inflamed, which means they are swollen, painful and tender to touch.

Sometimes the inflammation is caused by a direct injury or bang. Sometimes, especially when the cause is direct injury or strain, the muscles are actually partially torn.

Rarely the inflammation comes on without any definite cause, and this may be due to an arthritis, rheumatism or gout. Sometimes the problem is partly or completely due to a neck problem, which is causing pain in the elbow via the nerves from the neck.

Diagnosis

Your doctor or physiotherapist will test for tenderness over or near to the bony bump on the outside of the elbow. He will also test to see whether the pain gets worse when you bend the wrist back (extend it) against resistance. In the event of both these signs being present, it is likely that you have tennis elbow.

Your doctor may also examine your neck, as this may be the cause, or part of the problem. After all many of the things that might strain your elbow might also put a strain on your neck.

Treatment

- Rest helps, with avoidance of the activities which over use the elbow.
- Ozone injections to the tendon have been proven to be very effective in relieving the pain and

- regenerating the tissue
- Physiotherapy treatments, which may include heat or ultrasound therapy.
- Realignment of the bones of the elbow is often very helpful.
- You can buy a brace from a sports shop or pharmaceutical supplier, which can be helpful. This is probably largely because it reduces the amount you can use your elbow.
- Specific exercises are the key to correction.

USE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

We do not prescribe drugs nor recommend their use if harmful side-effects are associated with your complaints. We also do not, in any case, recommend changes in the use of prescription drugs that a licensed physician has given you. If you believe alterations in those prescriptions are in the best interest of your health, always consult with the prescribing physician before making any changes.

NUTRITION AND SUPPLEMENTATION:

The ideal situation for nutrition in any injury or disease is first to eat whole foods, and to avoid processed foods, fast foods preservatives, refined carbohydrates and sugar. We have much information on our web page under Absolute Health Clinic. The physical medicine modalities we will provide you will help reduce the symptoms in the time we have projected. If you want to heal, this step is something you will need to take.

Nowadays, even if you do all of those things, you need to realize that our food supply has been gradually depleted. The pure ingredients needed to maintain body function, metabolism and immunity have been drastically reduced. We recommend only whole food supplements. Studies are clear that synthetic vitamins and mineral supplements are not only not helpful to the body in most cases, but can toxic. Don't expect them to take the place of what we recommend here. They will not help you sufficiently to heal properly. The following list has been prioritized to help you gradually begin to supplement your improved diet and provide your body with the ingredients it needs to restore or improve your immune response and then provide the raw materials in usable form to repair the damaged or diseased tissue. The degree to which you can implement these items will largely determine how fast you recover and more importantly whether or not you have a recurrence or relapse of the symptoms again soon.

These products are all produced by Standard Process. You may obtain them on line from Amazon or other distributors if you like or we can order them for you and save you an average of \$5 per bottle plus you can avoid shipping charges.

GENERAL DAILY SUPPLEMENTS

- Catalyn
- Tuna Omega-3 oil
- Calcium Lactate
- Trace Minerals B12
- Cataplex D
- Prolamine Iodine

SPECIFIC FOR THIS CONDITION

- Biost
- Glucosamine Sulphate
- Ligaplex II
- Calcifood

Specific dosages will be provided by the doctor.

We have many other specific items for a variety of health deficient conditions. Consult our web page or ask the doctor.

HOME REMEDIES AND MEDICINES

After the first 1-3 days when you should be using 5-8 minutes of cold packs, utilize moist heat packs on a daily basis during the first phase of treatment. 15 minutes is the maximum therapeutic dose for heat in this condition. The application may be repeated with at least 15 minutes of non-heat rest in between. This will help relax tight muscle fibers and bring blood to the region. Hot tubs and baths with Epsom salts provide temporary relief.

The use of over-the-counter medications for pain and inflammation may be seen as necessary at first depending on your pain level and tolerance. Understand that we depend on your natural immune response to function well in order to heal this disorder. Some pain relievers and most anti-inflammatory medications shut off the inflammatory response which is what triggers your body's immune response mechanisms. If you need pain medicines of any kind to continue to function or to be able to do the exercise routines we have recommended, use good judgement in when you use them. We strongly suggest you consider ice packs for 5-10 minutes for pain relief and mechanical positioning of the injured areas to relieve pressure and pain. The more you are able to do these procedures and avoid medications, the faster your immune response will be effective and the sooner you will be out of pain and begin healing. The sooner you can stop taking pain medication, the better it will be for your healing.

EXERCISES:

Exercises should be specific, performed at the right time and in a particular order. They should be simple and aimed at pain relief and stabilization at first. Seek advice from your chiropractic physician on when to do these exercises and how often. When performed correctly, rehabilitation exercises can be the key to avoiding multiple episodes of pain and maintaining the function of the muscles and joints.

Our goal here is to have you begin exercises as soon as the joint mobility has been restored sufficiently. Consistent and proper exercise rehabilitation will shorten your treatment time and help reduce recurrence of the same disorder.

We offer a video training featuring exercises specifically designed and proven effective if properly performed for the rehabilitation of this condition. These video files are available on our web page at www.holladayphysicalmedicine.com ---follow that link, then the exercise pulldown menu at the top center of the home page, choose therapeutic and then scroll down to:

Elbow,

then also and review

shoulder and wrist

and perform them daily as soon as you can work it into your schedule. Along with the physical medicine we have recommended, it is the regular performance of these exercises that will get you well and keep you well.

OTHER INFORMATION:

We offer a wide variety of health information at our web site. www.holladayphysicalmedicine.com All

patients are welcome to use our information to improve your life and maintain your spinal health.

This information is provided to you as a health service by Dr. Bruce Gundersen, DC, DIANM. He is board certified by the International Academy of Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine and currently serves as chairman of the examination board for the Academy. He is also the President of the Utah College of Chiropractic Orthopedists and clinical director and chief clinician at Holladay Physical Medicine. He has practiced physical and regenerative medicine for over 40 years.