

information Osteoarthritis Incipient osteoarthritis Exercises to maintain joint function of the cervical spine SHFFTS exercise 1 exercise 3 exercise 2 **Rotation of the cervical Cervical extension Upward stretch** spine Why is this exercise useful? Why is this exercise useful? Why is this exercise useful? • To maintain neck rotation. To prevent the head from moving Strengthens the extensors of the cervical forward in posture. spine to better maintain the head and Essential, for example, in driving a car (for fights against it moving forward in parking). posture. How do you do the exercise correctly? How do you do the exercise correctly? How do you do the exercise correctly? • Sitting in front of a mirror with your back In a standing position, hold each end of a In a standing position, place a towel well supported by the back of the chair. behind your head and hold each end of it. towel placed on top of your head. Slowly turn your head from right to left. Try to grow taller, applying resistance to • Push your head backwards against the resistance of the towel which is pulled the towel which pulls your head Do not try to go very far at first, the downwards forward with both your hands. movement will gradually increase. Your chin should remain horizontal and May sure to keep your chin horizontal. To your head should not move. do this, use the mirror to correct your position. TIP • **TIP** TIP Sit with your back right at the back of Only the top of your head moves up The same movement can be achieved by the chair to limit rotation to the cervical towards the ceiling, your chin remains pushing your head into the headrest of spine. horizontal. the car seat or against a wall. Paris Brain Storming SAS -Scientifiques L&C Éditions

DURATION OF EXERCISES

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Stretching movements: you can hold the position for several seconds (6-10), stopping if it becomes too painful. **Strengthening movements**: you can perform sets of five movements with a longer rest

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(about twice as long as the duration of the movement). We also recommend that you change position between exercises (from one foot to the other, for example) in order to relax the muscles that have just been working.

SOME SIMPLE RULES TO FOLLOW DURING THESE EXERCISES

Work at your own pace, calmly and steadily.

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- Breathe during the exercises.
- Do not force it and follow the pause time.
- Gradually increase the number of sets.

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