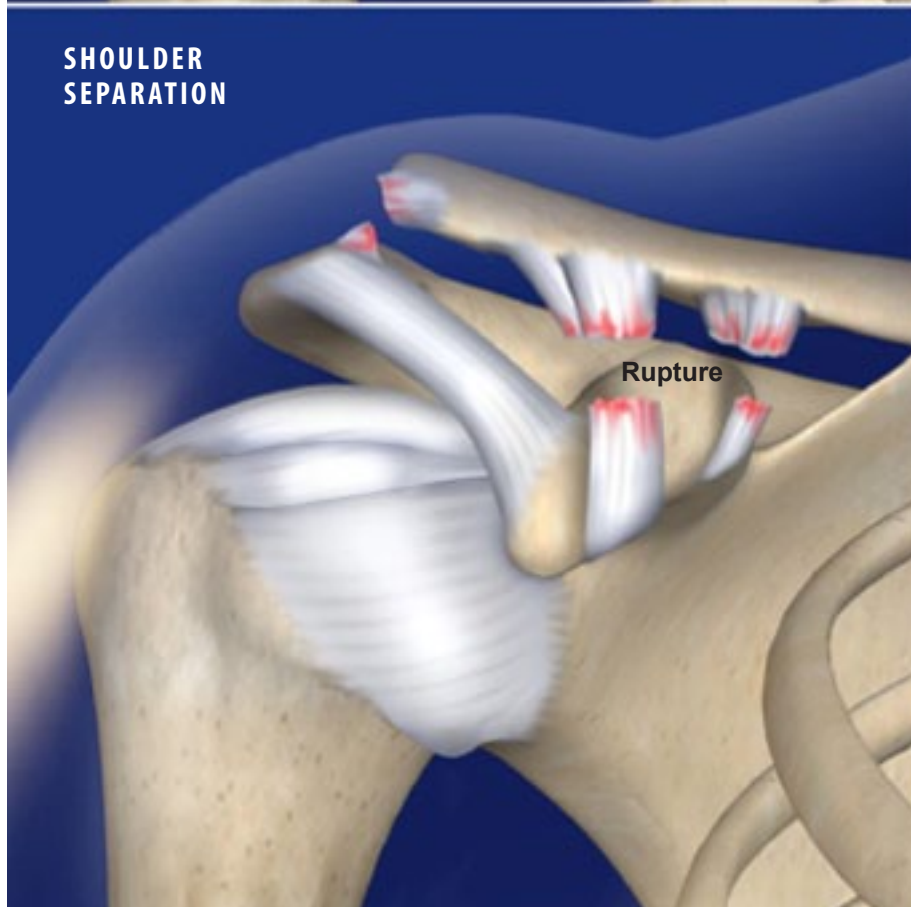
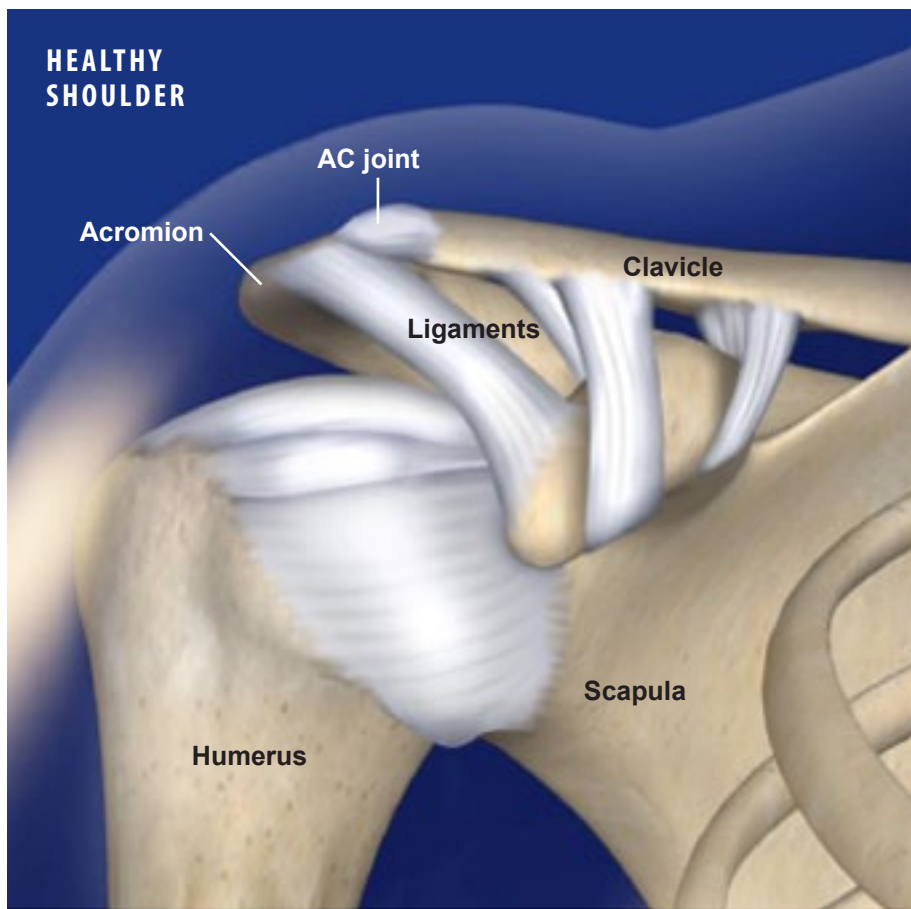


SHOULDER SEPARATION



Overview

This condition is an injury to the joint at the top of the shoulder where the acromion meets the clavicle, called the acromioclavicular (or AC) joint.

The ligaments that hold these bones together are partially or completely torn, allowing the bones to separate.

Causes

This condition is caused by trauma to the shoulder, such as a fall with an outstretched arm.

Symptoms

Symptoms can include pain, swelling, bruising and loss of range of motion in the arm. In some cases, the shifting of the bones may form a visible bump on the shoulder.

Treatment

Treatment options may include rest, anti-inflammatory medications, a sling and physical therapy. In severe cases surgery may be necessary to repair the joint.