**Mayo Clinic Minute: What's frozen shoulder?**

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<td>A stiff, painful shoulder could mean you have a frozen shoulder.</td>
<td>“The scientific name that we give it is adhesive capsulitis, and, basically, it’s a condition when the shoulder gets tight, and you can’t move it very well.”</td>
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Christopher Camp, M.D. Orthopedic Surgery Mayo Clinic

Dr. Christopher Camp says frozen shoulder happens when the lining that goes around the shoulder joint gets inflamed, possibly the result of a small injury. It thickens over time, forming scar tissue.

Frozen shoulder exists in three stages, and the symptoms and treatment options depend on which stage you’re in. So, the first one is an inflammatory stage.”

That’s the painful stage. Rest and steroid injections may help. The second stage is when the shoulder is less painful but starts to stiffen. Physical therapy works well then. The third phase ...

“... is what we call thawing, which means it finally starts to relax, loosen up and gain motion back again.”

If it doesn’t resolve in six to 12 months, surgery may be an option.

For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm DeeDee Stiepan.