

## Will my insurance cover this procedure?

While PRP treatments have been around for many years, many insurance companies still consider this treatment experimental and deny coverage. Your healthcare provider's office will contact your insurance company to confirm if they will cover this procedure. If your insurance will not cover the treatment, your provider may discuss other options with you.

*For more information, please discuss with your healthcare provider or go to [www.orthoillustrated.com](http://www.orthoillustrated.com) to learn more about the process.*



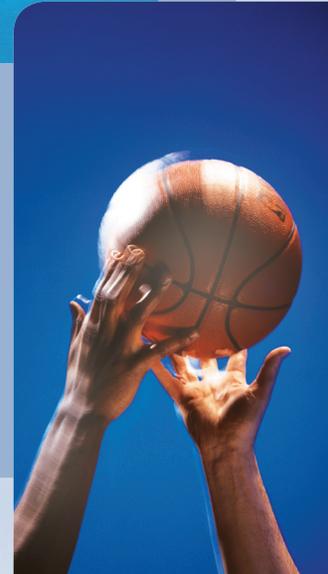
# A Patient's Guide to Natural Healing



*The Double Syringe (ACP) System is used to facilitate the safe and rapid preparation of autologous platelet-rich-plasma (PRP) from a small sample of blood at the patient's point of care. The PRP can be mixed with autograft and allograft bone prior to application to an orthopedic surgical site as deemed necessary by the clinical use requirements.*



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## Introduction

Healing after an injury involves a well-orchestrated and complex series of events where proteins in the blood act as messengers to regulate the entire process. Many proteins involved in the healing process are recovered from small fragments in the blood called platelets.

Platelets are small, colorless cell fragments present in the blood. They are formed in the bone marrow and are freely passing through the bloodstream in a resting state. However, when an injury occurs, the platelets become activated and start to gather at the injury site to release beneficial proteins called growth factors. This is the beginning of the healing process.

For many years, blood components derived from the patient and then delivered to the site of injury have created growing interest for use in orthopedic procedures. New research and technology has expanded the application of this therapy for use in orthopedic procedures.



## What is platelet-rich plasma (PRP)?

PRP is a concentration of platelets and growth factors created from a small amount of your own blood. Increased levels of growth factors have the potential to improve signaling and recruitment of cells. This concentrated portion of the blood is often referred to as PRP.

## How does the PRP process work?

Your health care provider will collect a small amount of blood. This sample then goes through a rapid spinning process that separates and concentrates the platelets and other beneficial growth factors from blood. The entire PRP production process is usually done in less than 30 minutes.

## Am I a candidate for treatment?

Speak with your physician or healthcare provider and ask if this treatment is right for you. Your provider will perform an examination to decide if this therapy will benefit you. If you are taking anti-inflammatory medications or blood thinners, your physician may temporarily discontinue the use of these until your treatment has taken place.

## What are the risks associated with this treatment?

Platelet therapy uses your body's own natural properties to treat your injury. Side effects from utilizing platelet treatments are very uncommon.

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