



Platelet-Rich Plasma (PRP)

Policy Number: PA.213

Last Review Date: 02/21/2019

Effective Date: 09/01/2019

Policy

*Evolent Health considers Platelet Rich Plasma for the treatment of osteoarthritis (e.g. hip, knee, and temporomandibular joint (TMJ)), chronic wounds, hamstring injury, ankle sprain, or any other application to be **experimental and investigational**.*

[Client] does not provide coverage for experimental or investigational services and procedures.

Background

According to the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, platelet rich plasma (PRP) is plasma with a higher concentration of platelets than is what typically found in blood. To achieve PRP, blood must initially be drawn from the individual and further separated into platelets and other blood cells through centrifugation.

Connective tissues have limited blood circulation, inhibiting quick recovery of wear and tear post repetitive injury. As damage accumulates within tissue, the acute healing pathways may not be triggered due to lack of acute insult. By activating acute healing pathways, physicians speculate a quicker recovery of injury site. PRP may be injected into the site of inflamed tissue to stimulate an acute injury and induce an acute healing response. PRP may also be used to improve healing after surgery for certain injuries by stitching the treatment into torn tissues.

Currently, there is insufficient evidence to support the coverage of PRP for any indications.

CPT Codes Not Covered for Indications Above:

| Code | Description |
|-------|---|
| 0232T | Injection(s), platelet rich plasma, any site, including image guidance, harvesting and preparation when performed |
| 0489T | Autologous adipose-hypenderived regenerative cell therapy for scleroderma in the hands; adipose tissue harvesting, isolation and preparation of harvested cells including incubation with cell dissociation enzymes, removal of non-hypenviable cells and debris, determination of concentration and dilution of regenerative cells |
| 0490T | Multiple injections in one or both hands |

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|-------|---|
| 0481T | Injection(s), autologous white blood cell concentrate (autologous protein solution), any site, including image guidance, harvesting and preparation, when performed |
| 86999 | Unlisted transfusion medicine procedure |

HCPCS Codes Not Covered:

| Code | Description |
|-------|--|
| G0460 | Autologous platelet rich plasma for chronic wounds/ulcers, including phlebotomy, centrifugation, and all other preparatory procedures, administration and dressings, per treatment |
| P9020 | Platelet rich plasma, each unit |
| S9055 | Procure or other growth factor preparation to promote wound healing |

References

1. American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG) On The Treatment Osteoarthritis Of The Knee, 2nd Edition. May 2013.
2. American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons A. Management of Osteoarthritis of the Hip - Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guideline. 2017
https://www.aaos.org/uploadedFiles/PreProduction/Quality/Guidelines_and_Reviews/OA%20Hip%20CPG_3.13.17.pdf
3. Hayes GTE Report. Platelet-Rich Plasma for Treatment of Conditions of the Achilles Tendon and Plantar Fascia. Published Date: 03/14/2019. Annual Review Date: 03/04/2019.
4. National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). Platelet-rich Plasma Injections for Osteoarthritis of the Knee, Interventional Procedure Guidance (IPG491), Published January 2019.<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ipg637>
5. OrthoInfo. Platelet-Rich Plasma (PRP). Contributed by Frank B. Kelly, M.D., last reviewed September 2011. Accessed March 6, 2019
6. UpToDate. Management of knee osteoarthritis. Leticia Alle Deveza M.D., Kim Bennell M.D., Topic last updated June 11, 2018.

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Certificates of Coverage, Summary Plan Descriptions, or contracts with governing regulatory agencies.

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