

# THE PEARL

DERMATOLOGY

## **Platelet Rich Plasma (PRP) Treatment for Hair Loss**

The PRP treatment is an innovative therapy that involves using your own blood by-product to stimulate hair follicle growth and preservation of existing hair. First, a small amount of blood (11-22 ml) is drawn from your arm. The tube of blood is then spun in a centrifuge to separate the plasma and platelet portion from the red and white blood cells. Plasma contains 8 different growth factors which are injected into your scalp to help treat hair loss. The growth factors work to "fertilize" the scalp and encourage hair growth. This treatment is not recommended if you have more than 50% hair loss.

This treatment consists of an initial 3 treatments, 4 to 6 weeks apart and requires long term maintenance. A maintenance treatment should be scheduled every 6 months.

Numbing is not recommended or needed during this treatment, but patients may find that having laughing gas (PRONOX) during their treatment makes it more comfortable. This is an additional charge to have during your treatment and we will ask that you remain in our office for about 15 minutes post-treatment to allow the effects of the gas to wear off.

The procedure should not be done if you have any of the following conditions: platelet dysfunction syndrome, thrombocytopenia, hypofibrinogenemia, chronic liver disease, sepsis, hepatitis, acute or chronic infections, porphyria, cancer, chemotherapy, corticosteroid therapy, blood or platelet disorders, and anticoagulation therapy. It should not be done if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Please notify your healthcare provider if you have any of these conditions.

### Pre-Treatment Instructions

1. Please hydrate prior to your appointment and come with some food in your stomach.
2. For 1-2 weeks prior to treatment, avoid any blood thinners and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as ibuprofen (Advil/Motrin), naproxen (Aleve), and other supplements that may inhibit platelet function such as vitamin E, fish oil, St John's wort, garlic, ginseng, and ginkgo biloba. Do not stop any of these if they are medically necessary.

### Treatment Day

1. At your first appointment, you will be asked to come 30 minutes prior to your appointment time to take pictures of your scalp and have your blood drawn.
2. While we spin down your blood, we will cleanse your scalp with Hibiclens and alcohol prior to the injections.
3. After obtaining your PRP, the physician will proceed to inject the PRP into specific sections of your scalp that have more hair loss than others.

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Post-Treatment Instructions

During and after the treatment there may be some pinpoint bleeding. You can resume activities right after treatment and can shower normally that evening. We recommend a hot shower to aid in the cleansing of the scalp. For the following 48 hours, we advise not using any topicals on the scalp area. Follow up pictures will be scheduled 3 months after your third treatment.

Possible Risks & Complications

Although uncommon, any procedure that punctures or breaks the surface of the skin carries a risk of a secondary infection. With the PRP blood draw there are risks of pain, discomfort, swelling, bruising, vasovagal reactions, hematoma, phlebitis, and rarely, numbness or nerve injury.

Recommended Post-Procedure Products

1. Viviscal Pro Supplements – 3 Month Supply