

# PLATELET RICH PLASMA (PRP)

Platelet-rich plasma (PRP) is a concentrate made from whole blood. PRP contains high levels of proteins called growth factors which may improve the rate of healing for injuries and after some surgeries. PRP is created by centrifuging a sample of the patient's own blood, and removing the portion rich in platelets and associated growth factors. This liquid is then placed in the surgical site.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. *What are the benefits of PRP?*

- The patient's own blood is used to encourage a natural healing process which may decrease the risk of complications, including infection or graft rejection.
- Since the patient's own blood is utilized there is no risk of disease transmission.
- The growth factors present in PRP may stimulate more rapid tissue formation and, therefore, more rapid healing.
- Many patients report greater comfort immediately after their procedure with the use of PRP.
- PRP may be particularly helpful for patients with conditions that delay healing, such as diabetes or smoking.

### 2. *When will my dentist use PRP?*

- Soft tissue grafts for gingival recession around teeth
- Bone grafting, gum grafting and sinus lift procedures for implants
- Implant placement
- Bone augmentation
- Following tooth extraction
- Repair of bony defects in the jaw from cysts or trauma

### 3. *Is PRP safe?*

After your dentist has reviewed your medical history and ruled out any disqualifying blood or clotting disorders, this procedure is very safe.