Doctor's Treatment Revolutionizes Pain Management For Arthritis Sufferers

New Jersey's Edward Magaziner finds great success in treating patients with platelet rich plasma (PRP)

Dec. 16, 2009 - *PRLog* -- ust one year ago, professional fisherman Douglas Cooper's right arm was in agony every time he cast a line.

A variety of conditions in his shoulder and elbow – including arthritis, bursitis and tendonitis – caused him "excruciating" and "constant" pain.

That was when Cooper turned to Dr. Edward Magaziner for help. The pain management specialist recommended his patient undergo platelet rich plasma (PRP) grafts for relief. Approximately eight PRP treatments later, Cooper is now pain-free.

"It's cleared up completely," Cooper says. "It's like I never had it."

A pioneer in the field of PRP grafts, Dr. Magaziner has been using the revolutionary treatment to help alleviate pain for hundreds of his patients suffering from a variety of conditions affecting ligaments, joints and other tissue.

"We can get people feeling better 95% of the time," Dr. Magaziner says.

The doctor hails PRP as "a breakthrough treatment for arthritis," and has also found success using it to treat tendonitis, bursitis and tennis elbow, torn cartilage and tendons. In 2002, he became the first physician on the East Coast to use the treatment on patients. Since then, Dr. Magaziner has treated well over 500 patients with PRP.

How PRP grafts work is simple: Dr. Magaziner draws blood – between three and six vials – from his patient's arm and places it in a centrifuge, which within minutes extracts the platelets and stem cells. Once the patient receives a local anesthetic, Dr. Magaziner takes the extracted cells and transplants them via a small needle directly into the injured site using ultrasound or X-ray as a guide. The procedure takes place in the doctor's office and typically lasts between 15 and 30 minutes, depending upon the injury.

Once the plasma is injected, the cells immediately locate the injury, attach themselves to it and begin working to regenerate the compromised cartilage or injured tissue.

"In addition to repair and regeneration, PRP can shut down inflammation for very long periods of time," Dr. Magaziner says.

Unlike traditional treatments such as anti-inflammatory medication and cortisone injections, which only offer temporary relief, PRP grafts provide long-term results and virtually no side effects, aside from soreness at the injured site. Furthermore, the injury heals normally and there is no scar tissue.

The number of treatments necessary to achieve the desired result – little to no pain – varies depending upon the injury. Dr. Magaziner estimates most of his patients notice a significant reduction in pain between the second and third treatment, and that usually only five to seven treatments are necessary to alleviate the pain for a significant amount of time.

Arthritis treatment NJ ... can last for years," says Dr. Magaziner. "In many cases, the effect will last one

year or two. Patients may have to come back every now and then for a treatment."

The results for other types of conditions, such as tennis elbow or tendonitis, last longer and can be permanent "unless they reinjure it," Magaziner says.

"Dr. Magaziner said I had the worst tendonitis he'd ever seen," she recalls. "I'd type for a while and couldn't grip anything. I had to do everything (with my left hand)."

Neither resting her arm nor cortisone shots helped alleviate her discomfort. Magaziner's PRP treatments changed everything.

PRP has also been received warmly in the world of professional sports. Earlier this year, it was reported that Pittsburgh Steeler wide receiver Hines Ward was treated with PRP for a medial collateral ligament (or MCL) sprain in his knee just weeks before Super Bowl XLIII. The treatment was so successful that Ward not only was able to play, but he caught a 38-yard pass – which helped lead his team to victory.

Perhaps the most amazing thing about PRP is that it is something natural that your body manufactures all by itself which, if focused on the injury, can be used to heal it.

Patients also find the idea of treating these types of injuries with a minimally invasive procedure particularly appealing.

"It's really cool that you don't have to go through surgery to get this done," says Cooper.

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