

# WHAT IS AN AMNIOTIC INJECTION?

## Regenerative Medicine Overview



Regenerative medicine, otherwise known as biologic treatment, is changing the medical field. These fairly new concepts have the potential to help patients heal faster by repairing damaged tissue and improving joint function at a biologic level. The goal of biologic therapies is to facilitate healing, accelerate recovery, and provide for formation of more normal healing tissue

Knowledge of the healing effects of the fluid and tissue which surrounds a new born baby has been realized for more than one thousand years. The amniotic fluid and amniotic sac around the baby has high concentrations of collagen substrates, cellular components, growth factors, amino acids, carbohydrates, and cytokines. All of these elements are known to facilitate movement of new cells to the site of injury and help accelerate healing of damaged tissue. Amniotic fluid allograft is a product comprised of human amniotic membrane and amniotic fluid components derived from the placental tissue of consenting mothers at the time of a live, full-term elective Cesarean birth. Amniotic tissue allografts do not involve fetal sacrifice and are processed and expertly prepared at an FDA registered facility.

What is biologic treatment? This refers to cells, blood components, growth factors, human donor tissue and other natural substances that replace or harness the body's own power to promote healing and decrease inflammation. The biologic options our physicians offer include platelet rich plasma (PRP) and stem cells. For qualifying patients, these can be used in treatment as stand-alone injections, enhancements to surgical procedures. Bill successfully underwent PRP to treat his tennis elbow. Robert working after receiving stem cell injections in his painful hip. Platelet rich plasma ○ Stem cell therapy ○ Cartilage transplantation

Who are the best candidates? Biologic injections: Research suggests that the best patients are in the early stages of osteoarthritis or have persistent tendon injuries. They have exhausted other nonsurgical treatments such as rest, physical therapy, and cortisone injections, but are not yet thinking about joint replacement or other surgeries. Biologic injections are not typically recommended for severe cases of osteoarthritis in which patients are told they are a better candidate for joint replacement. In addition, biologic injections have the potential to enhance the healing process for surgical intervention.

When amniotic fluid allograft is injected into your tissue, joint, or spinal area of concern it begins to work immediately. It's complex make-up of healing components start to work together to aid in the healing and repair of the targeted site. It is known to contain key growth factors that can stimulate the repair of injured tissue.

Amniotic tissue injections should be considered joint pain, cartilage defects, sports injuries such as tennis elbow or golfers' elbow, and the pain of osteoarthritis. It is particularly useful in patients

You may require 1-3 injections per site for this therapy to be effective, but most patients improve after one treatment. Most patients can expect a reduction of inflammation within a few days of the injection. Total healing time is unique to your injury and your body's recovery process. It can take up to 8 weeks to fully complete. After the injection, you will need to rest for 72 hours.

Most Insurance companies do not cover some of our newest regenerative therapies. However, you can pay for this therapy with cash, credit card, or use your health savings account plan or flexible spending plan (FSA). We will verify coverage with your insurance company.