

## Comment on "Safety and Efficacy of Platelet Rich Plasma for Treatment of Lumbar Discogenic Pain: A Prospective, Multicenter, Randomized, Double-blind Study"

### To THE EDITOR:

We read with great interest the recent article published by Margaret Anne Zielinski et al (1) entitled "Safety and Efficacy of Platelet Rich Plasma for Treatment of Lumbar Discogenic Pain: A Prospective, Multicenter, Randomized, Double-blind Study."

However, we would like to discuss several potential questions in this study.

Firstly, the clinical trial registration number was not provided in the context, this is very important in the clinical ethics and clinical practice.

Secondly, there are no baseline characteristics, the mean blood serum platelet counts, the PRP platelet counts in PRP for treatment and the red blood cell counts were not reported. These data are very important in the study that are associated to the clinical outcomes significantly. The different concentrations of platelets in PRP have different effects on the biological features (2).

Thirdly, when injecting the PRP, the annulus fibrosus will be punctured and there would be a certain possibility that the annulus fibrosus would be teared. Afterward, the PRP may leak from the degenerated discs. Thus, how to ensure sufficient PRP concentration

in the intervertebral disc and how to make sure the PRP would not be accumulated around the puncture site. Were there radiographic examinations before and after treatment?

Lastly, how to ensure sterility during preparation?

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### REFERENCES

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2. Giusti I, D'Ascenzo S, Mancò A, et al. Platelet concentration in platelet-rich plasma affects tenocyte behavior in vitro. *Biomed Res Int* 2014; 2014:630870.