

**Vaquerizo V, Plasencia MA, et al. Comparison of intra-articular injections of plasma rich in growth factors (PRGF-Endoret) versus Durolane hyaluronic acid in the treatment of patients with symptomatic osteoarthritis: a randomized controlled trial. Arthroscopy 2013;29(10):1635-43.**

Design: Randomized clinical trial

Study question: In the setting of knee osteoarthritis, are three injections with plasma rich in growth factors (PRP) more effective than a single injection with hyaluronic acid (HA)?

Reasons not to cite as evidence:

- There are several features of the study which place it at an unacceptably high risk of bias in the comparison
  - o The comparison is between 3 injections of PRP and one injection of HA
  - o Only the PRP group had venipuncture at the time that the injections were being done, meaning that it was apparent to the patients which group they were in
  - o The authors' assertion that the patients were "blinded" to the assignment of treatments cannot be taken as valid
  - o There are other studies of PRP for knee OA which are at lower risk of bias and may qualify as evidence