

# Autologous Platelet Gel — Clinical Function and Usage in Plastic Surgery

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**A**rtificial methods to improve and enhance wound healing have been approached by many modalities. In recent years pharmacologic methods beyond antisepsis and antibacterial preparations have been investigated, and have reached the stage of clinical usage in acute and chronic wounds.

Among these pharmacologic modalities currently in clinical use are wound sealants including cyanoacrylates and both homologous and autologous fibrin preparations.

The method the author describes in this article provides an autologous preparation, including both wound sealant and a higher than native concentration of platelets, that can be utilized in both acute and chronic wounds and delivered at a lower cost and without the risk of blood bank error or the potential for homologous interactions of other preparations.

The use of the autologous platelet gel as a wound sealant in 108 acute cases and as a wound sealant and wound healing enhancement in five chronic cases is described. The search for an effective wound sealant involved the use of alloplastic substances, as well as homologous and autologous blood products. Recently, commercial products have become available in the United States.