

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Alpha-2-Macroglobulin, or A2M, is a naturally occurring molecule found in your blood that acts as a powerful protector against cartilage breakdown. A2M attaches to and removes the destructive enzymes, called *proteases*, that damage cartilage cells and tissues in the joint or disc space.

ABOUT THE A2M INJECTION

► How does an A2M injection compare to other OA treatments?

How do they compare?	NSAIDs, narcotic agents, cortizone injections, and other medications	Steroid Injections	A2M Injections
Helps rejuvenate, repair and heal damaged tissue and cartilage	NO	NO	YES
Prevents or removes the root cause of painful swelling or inflammation	NO	NO	YES
Contains growth factors and other regenerative factors	NO	NO	YES

► Why is an A2M Injection a better solution for Osteoarthritis patients?

An A2M injection contains a concentrated dose 6X more than what already occurs in your blood naturally. When this level of A2M is placed directly into your joint or disc space, it can provide the necessary amount of A2M to bind and remove destructive proteases associated with cartilage cell and tissue breakdown within the joint or disc space.

► Does an A2M injection have any other benefits?

Because this injection is derived from your own blood, it employs natural growth factors and bioactive proteins as a physiological agent to promote tissue growth and restoration of the affected joint.

WHAT TO EXPECT

► Is an A2M injection painful?

No, the injection is not painful. The A2M solution is soothing to the joint space as it immediately starts to remove the harmful proteins.

► Can I go back to work or daily activities?

Typically, you'll be able to return to work the same day. Your physician will instruct you on any restrictions based on your specific injury.

► Should I ice after the injection?

Icing the joint is not necessary after an A2M injection as it acts like an anti-inflammatory.

► Will I need to wear a brace after the injection?

Not typically; however, your physician will instruct you on any necessary post-procedure care.

► What can I expect after having an A2M Injection?

You should follow your physician's instruction about returning to normal activities, but the majority of patients can expect reduced inflammation within a few days of the injection. Total healing time is unique to your injury and your body's recovery process and can take up to eight weeks to fully complete.

► Will insurance cover the cost of an A2M injection?

No, insurance companies do not cover some of the newest technologies and more innovative treatment therapies such as this. You may pay cash, or use your private Health Savings Account (HSA) dollars or FSA Flexible Spending Plan. We also partner with Health Finance Solutions (HFS) to offer a variety of loan options based on your qualifications.

► How many A2M injections are needed?

The number of A2M injections needed depends on the type and severity of your injury. Your physician will determine the number of injections you should receive and the best timeline.