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### ***Tiger Woods Innocent of Blood Doping”***

Frederick, Maryland – December 16, 2009—Assertions that Tiger Wood’s blood product therapy are “doping” are false and misleading. So says, regenerative medicine and arthritis expert, Dr. Nathan Wei.

“The platelet-rich plasma treatment that Tiger Woods received from Dr. Anthony Galea is the same material that Hines Ward, Dana Torres, and scores of other athletes have had to help with injury healing,” states Dr. Wei.

“Platelet-rich plasma or PRP, as it’s referred to, is made by putting a patient’s blood in a centrifuge at a certain speed so the platelets are isolated. Platelets are blood cells that contain a tremendous amount of healing and growth factors. The PRP is injected, using ultrasound guidance, into areas of tissue injury.

This makes it different from blood doping where a person’s whole blood is given back to them intravenously to give them an advantage because of more oxygen carrying capacity, which improves endurance for competition,” explains Dr Wei.

“We have used PRP and stem cells in our patients for quite some time to help regenerate and heal damaged tissue in conditions such as tendon problems, ligament injury, and arthritis,” adds Dr. Wei.

“PRP and stem cells merely help a person recover from an injury such as tendonitis, bursitis, or even arthritis faster... much like an earthworm can regenerate the other half of its body if it’s cut in two,” Dr. Wei asserts.

“There is nothing illegal, immoral, or unethical, in the use of PRP. It’s good science applied to help patients mend faster,” concludes Dr. Wei.

Dr. Wei is a board-certified rheumatologist and regenerative medicine expert who practices in Frederick, Maryland.

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