

HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY AT COMMUNITY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

As the only Level 1 trauma center between Los Angeles and Sacramento, Community Regional is staffed by nationally recognized physicians with 24/7 specialty coverage, including the region's only round-the-clock burn center.

The Leon S. Peters Burn Center provides comprehensive inpatient and outpatient care for major and minor burn and wound injuries and is home to the area's first board certified staff and two hyperbaric oxygen (HBO) chambers.

Our wound care team includes highly trained physicians practicing in diverse medical specialties. The nursing staff is specially trained in wound and burn management, critical care, rehabilitation and adult/pediatric trauma.

The triad of primary care physicians, HBO therapy and home health care provides a continuity of care and demonstrates proven results in chronic wound management.



A PHYSICIAN REFERRAL GUIDE TO

HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY



COMMUNITY
REGIONAL
MEDICAL CENTER

HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY

OFFICE

(559) 459-4486

REFERRALS

(559) 459-3870

COMMUNITY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
TRAUMA AND CRITICAL CARE BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR
2823 FRESNO ST. • FRESNO, CA 93721



COMMUNITY
REGIONAL
LEON S. PETERS
BURN CENTER

HOW HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY WORKS



HBO therapy takes place inside a sealed chamber and creates an environment where the entire body is under increased pressure and patients breathe 100% oxygen. This causes large amounts of oxygen to be dissolved into the blood stream — promoting tissue growth and helping persistent wounds heal. Oxygen assumes the properties of a drug when administered at such pressures, allowing oxygen to be delivered almost immediately to compromised tissue. Complete hemoglobin saturation and significant high plasma and interstitial partial pressures are achieved. HBO therapy's healing properties promotes more microvascular blood vessel growth, which promotes healing in chronic non-healing wounds.

HBO therapy stimulates white blood cells and inhibits the growth of certain bacteria. It also reduces the incidence and severity of swelling (edema), thereby promoting reperfusion to affected extremities. Studies show that the application of HBO therapy reduces the need for amputations.

In 2003, HBO therapy was approved for reimbursement for selected diabetic wounds that have shown resistance to healing using traditional therapy alone. As an adjuvant therapy in chronic wound management, HBO therapy offers medical practitioners a tool that promotes healing and may prevent amputation and/or surgery.

HBO THERAPY TREATMENTS

Common treatments:

- Bone infections
- Complication of radiotherapy
- Chronic, non-healing wounds

Emergency treatment:

- Carbon monoxide poisoning
- Cyanide poisoning
- Decompression illness
- Arterial gas embolism

Other approved treatments:

- Osteoradionecrosis
- Diabetic wounds; Wagner Grade III or greater
- Progressive necrotizing infections
- Gas gangrene
- Acute traumatic peripheral ischemia
- Soft tissue radionecrosis
- Crush injuries and repair of severed limbs
- Acute peripheral arterial insufficiency
- Treatment and preparation of compromised skin flaps and grafts
- Chronic refractory osteomyelitis
- Actinomycosis refractory to antibiotics/ surgery
- Exceptional blood loss anemia



PHYSICIAN REFERRAL PROCESS

Non-emergent referrals call: (559) 459-3870

Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Please call us and provide patient name, referring physician, contact number and reason for referral.

Emergent referrals call: (559) 459-4220

Call the Leon S. Peters Burn Center charge nurse and the HBO Therapy Department physician will be contacted.

Your office will be contacted to obtain required patient information. Only inpatient or emergent treatment will be performed without prior authorization and evaluation.

A consultation will be scheduled for your patient at Community Regional's HBO Therapy Department to review health history, medications, lab work, ECG, chest X-ray and discuss the risks and benefits of HBO therapy.

Patients will receive an orientation to HBO therapy subsequent to authorization and registration. When consent and authorization forms are completed and the HBO and primary physicians have approved, therapy is then initiated.

HBO THERAPY AND YOUR PATIENT

HBO therapy is normally painless. Patients lie comfortably in the chamber where they can watch television, listen to music or nap as if they were in their own bed.

Like all procedures, there may be risks which will be discussed with the patient prior to treatment. The number of treatments will depend on the diagnosis.