

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL PREPARATIONS?

Smoking: You should not use tobacco products during the course of your treatment. Tobacco constricts blood vessels and limits the amount of blood and oxygen that can be delivered to tissues, decreasing the positive affects of therapy. Smoking Cessation programs are available at Kettering Health Network.

Medications: Prepare a complete list of medications, including non-prescription drugs that you are taking. Some medications could change the body's response to oxygen.

Illness: Notify a staff member if you have symptoms of a cold or flu, such as fever, cough, sore throat, nausea, headache, diarrhea, or body aches. Symptoms may cause a delay in treatment until the symptoms cease.

Clothing: Personal items are not permitted in the chamber for safety reasons. Cotton garments will be provided. Cotton is necessary to reduce the potential for static electricity. Other items that should not be worn in the chamber include:

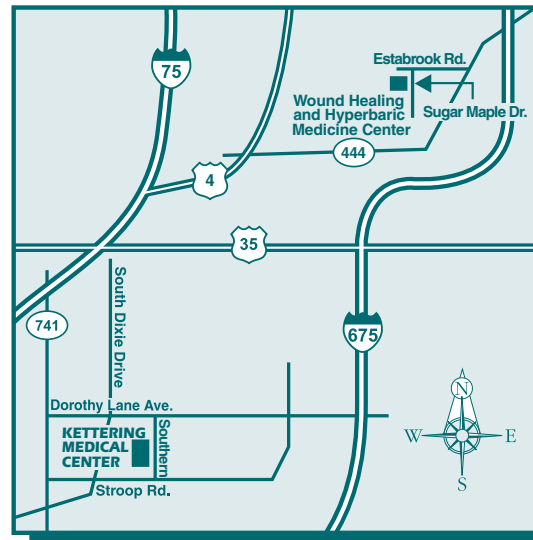
- Jewelry and other metal objects
- Dentures/partial plates
- Hair spray/make-up/perfume
- Deodorant/shaving lotion
- Oils/grease (hair or skin products)
- Contact Lenses/glasses

Lockers are provided for your clothing and personal items. Please leave valuable items at home.

Two Locations to Serve You

Kettering Medical Center
3535 Southern Blvd., Kettering, OH 45429

Wright Patterson Medical Center
4881 Sugar Maple Dr., WPAFB, OH 45433



We are eager to make your therapy pleasant and as effective as possible. Call us anytime with any questions or concerns.

Monday – Friday

7:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.

937-873-8600 or 937-257-8600

After Hours (ask for the HBO person on call)

937-298-3399



WOUND HEALING AND
HYPERBARIC MEDICINE CENTER

KETTERING HEALTH NETWORK™

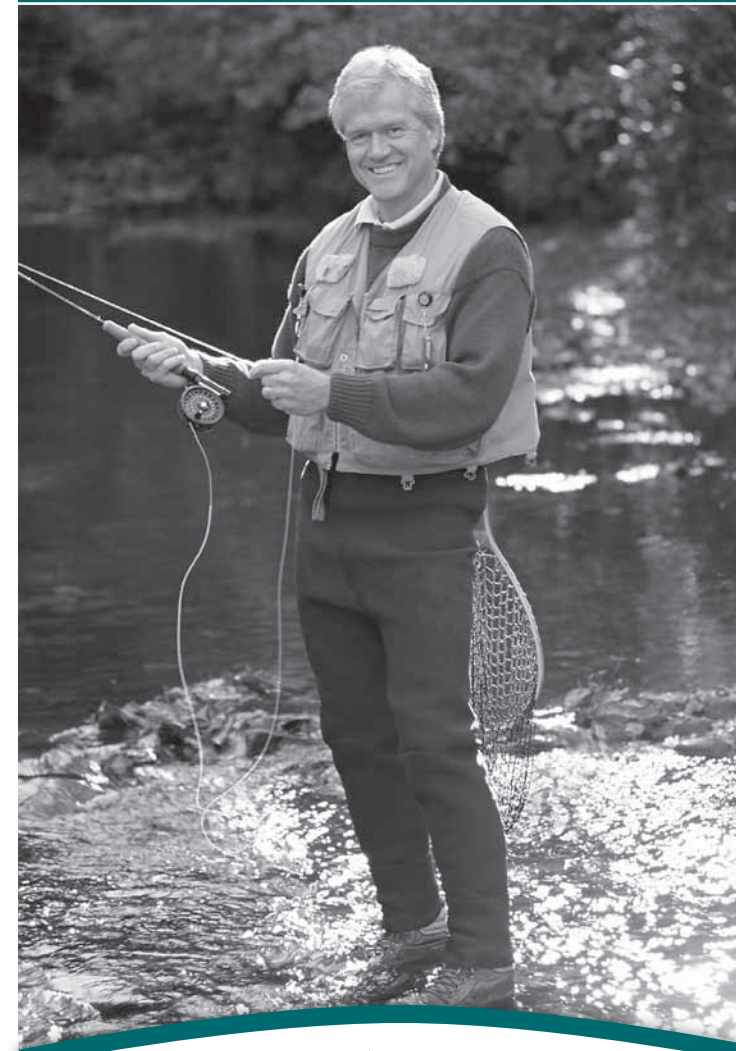
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FOR LIFE

RECOVER NOW FROM A WOUND THAT WON'T HEAL

HYPERBARIC THERAPY



WOUND HEALING AND
HYPERBARIC MEDICINE CENTER

KETTERING HEALTH NETWORK™

WHAT DOES IT TREAT?

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy is a medical treatment used to treat a well-defined series of illnesses, such as:

- Carbon Monoxide Poisoning
- Decompression Sickness
- Arterial Gas Embolism

The therapy is also used for enhanced healing in selected cases, such as:

- Diabetic Ulcers
- Lower Leg Ulcers
- Foot/Heel Ulcers
- Surgical Wounds
- Non-Healing Skin Grafts/Flaps
- Radiation Injury
- Other Acute and Chronic Wounds

HOW DOES IT WORK?

A pressurized chamber is used to create an environment of 100 percent oxygen where the atmospheric pressure is increased to a level ordered by the physician. This in turn means greater amounts of oxygen are dissolved in the bloodstream to promote healing in the tissues.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- Greater Blood Vessel Formation
- Advanced Wound Healing
- Improved Infection Control
- Preservation of Damaged Tissue
- Elimination of Toxic Substances
- Reduction of Tissue Obstruction by Gas Bubbles

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

The number of treatments necessary depends on the individual. Some emergency conditions will require only one or two treatments. However, in most cases of wound healing 20 to 40 treatments may be required.

Your exact number will be determined by your response to hyperbaric oxygen therapy. The center routinely offers treatments once a day on a five day week schedule. You can expect each treatment to take 2 hours and 30 minutes.

WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE?

When the treatment begins you will hear air begin to circulate. As the compression phase begins, you may experience a rise in temperature and a sensation of "fullness" in your ears, similar to what you may have experienced while driving in the mountains or flying in an airplane.

Prior to treatment you will be instructed how to relieve this fullness and avoid discomfort. Also during treatment a staff member will adjust the rate of compression according to your tolerance and coach you on relieving any discomfort.

The initial phase should only last 5 to 10 minutes, then once you have reached your prescribed pressure the fullness in your ears will cease. You can sit back and relax.

Once your treatment is complete the decompression phase will take place. During this phase, you may experience a "popping" sensation in your ears. This is a normal adjustment and requires nothing to be done on your part. This last phase will take about 20 minutes.

ARE THERE ANY SIDE EFFECTS?

Generally, no. However, like all medical treatments and procedures, some risks are associated with hyperbaric oxygen therapy. These risks are rare and will be discussed with you before you consent.

Occasionally, patients report "crackling" in their ears between treatments. The same exercises used to clear your ears in the chamber can be used to relieve this sensation. If the "crackling" continues report it to a hyperbaric staff member. Some patients have reported feeling light headed for a few minutes following the treatment, but this is brief and patients are able to continue with normal activity.

Occasionally, patients have developed temporary changes in eyesight. This altered vision is generally short in duration and should return to its pre-treatment status within three months after stopping hyperbaric therapy.

