

#### HBO service – Australian's experience

**HA convention Master Class** 

Dr. Kwan Leong Au-Yeung A&E Dept, QEH

#### HBO service in Australia

- Medicare
- Medical Service Advisory Committee (MSAC) approved indications
  - Decompression sickness
  - Arterial Gas Embolism
  - Selected problem wounds
  - Delayed radiation injury to soft tissue and bone
  - Clostridial Myositis and Myonecrosis

## Major clinical service

- 1. Hyperbaric oxygen therapy
  - Emergency and elective cases
- 2. Wound management
- 3. Diving medicine
  - Decompression sickness
    - other dive injures
  - Fitness to dive
    - Recreational / Occupational









## HBO unit design

- Hyperbaric chamber
  - Compressor, tanks, pipes, deluge etc
- Control panel & Nurse station
- Reception area
  - Changing room and lockers
- Consultation room
- Resuscitation room
- Wound care room
- Equipment room
- Doctors, nurses and technicians' office
- Conference room

#### New South Wales

- Hyperbaric unit in POWH
  - Serves population of ~8 million
  - The only public HBU
- Private HBUs
- Staffing
  - Hyperbaric physicians
  - Hyperbaric nurses
  - Hyperbaric technicians

## Hyperbaric physician

- Doctors' responsibilities
  - Supervise HBOT (Before, during and after)
  - Take consultations and referrals
  - Divers assessment

#### Hyperbaric nurses

- Nurses
  - Nurse in-charge
  - Attendant during each HBO session
  - Wound care

# Staffing

- Technicians
  - Navy background
  - Operate chamber, maintenance of chamber
- Clerks/ secretary
  - Appointments and accommodations, reimbursement etc

#### **Commonly treated conditions**

- Elective
  - Radio-osteonecrosis (jaw) treatment or prophylaxis
  - Soft tissue radiation injury
  - Problem wounds
- Emergency
  - Decompression sickness
  - Gas embolism (iatrogenic or diving accident)
  - Necrotising soft tissue infection
  - CO poisoning
- Semi-urgent
  - Sensorineural hearing loss
  - Central retinal artery occlusion
  - Graft

### Chamber designs

- Multiplace chamber (Four compartments)
  - Main treatment lock
  - Entry/ exit lock
  - Second treatment lock
  - 6 ATA treatment lock
- Monoplace chamber



#### Elective Rx

- Three sessions a day
   Mon to Fri
- Table 14:90:20
- Multiplace chamber
- 2 monoplaces

#### Workflow Elective cases

- Consultation or referrals

   HBOT indications
- Pre-HBOT assessment
- HBOT regime
- Test dive
- Review and follow-up
- Refer back for continuity of care

## Osteoradionecrosis (ORN)

- Radiotherapy >60-70 Gy
- Prophylaxis against ORN
  - HBOT reduce risk from >70% to <30%</p>
  - 20 sessions of HBOT before dental extraction + 10 post-op HBOT
- Established ORN
  - 40 Rx sessions
- Total Rx duration 6-8 w

### Non-healing wounds

- Pre-HBOT assessment
  - Vascular status
  - TCOM
  - General (fitness for HBOT, DM control)
- HBOT 30-40 sessions
- Comprehensive wound management

#### Gas embolism

- 24/7 Emergency service
- Patient assessment
  - Likelihood of benefit
  - Retrieval risk and transport issue
- Liaison with ICU +/-and other units
- Urgent ENT consultation
- Notify A&E



#### Diver assessment

- Certification of "Fitness to dive"
  - Recreational
  - Occupational

- Emergency hotlines providing divers with opinions on
  - Retrieval options
  - Emergency Rx

#### Future HBO service in NAH

- 1. Unit floor plan
- 2. Chamber design
- 3. Manpower & training
- 4. Clinical indications
- 5. Multi-disciplinary support
- 6. International networking

Peoplecentred Care

Committed Staff

Professional Service

**Teamwork** 

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