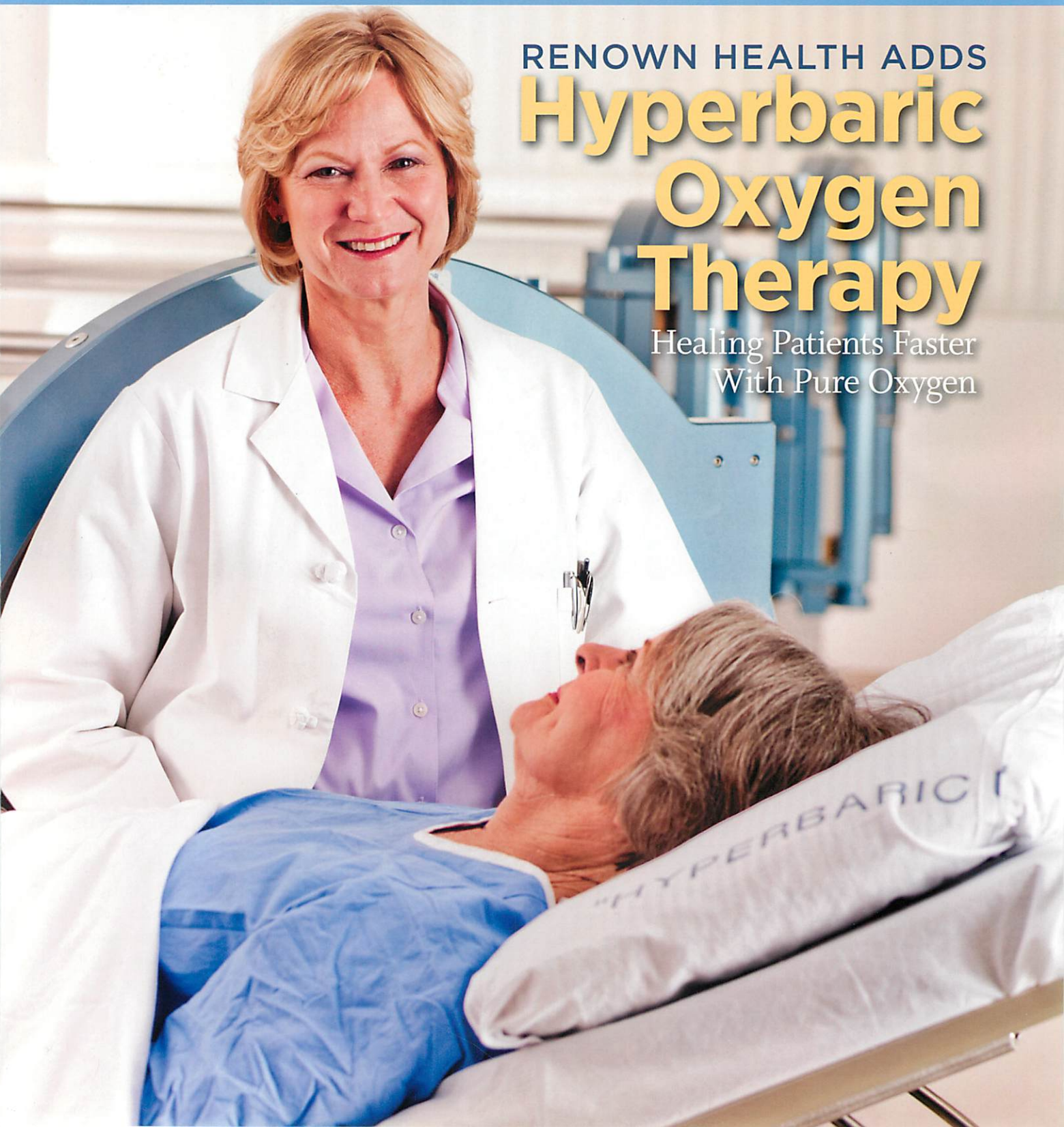


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RENOWN HEALTH ADDS **Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy**

Healing Patients Faster
With Pure Oxygen



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— Healing Patients Faster with Pure Oxygen

The hyperbaric oxygen therapy team at Renown Health

FORMED THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN RENOWN HEALTH AND NEVADA HYPERBARICS, INC. — AN AREA LEADER IN HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS — RENOWN HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY ALLOWS PATIENTS TO BENEFIT FROM CARE DELIVERED BY AN EXPERIENCED, SKILLED STAFF IN AN ENVIRONMENT THAT CONTAINS THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY.

RENOWN HYPERBARIC OXYGEN Therapy's team of physicians and certified hyperbaric technologists has more than 50 years of combined experience in helping patients achieve the best possible outcomes for conditions such as nonhealing wounds, serious infections, burns, tissue damage from radiation therapy and carbon monoxide poisoning.

"When other therapies have failed, hyperbaric oxygen therapy provides an option for treatment for selected indications," says Howard Chen, M.D., supervising physician at Renown Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy. "In many instances, it can be a limb-saving or life-saving alternative."

Renown Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy began seeing patients in July 2010, and is staffed by three area leaders in hyperbaric oxygen therapy — Janet L. Albright, M.D., Medical Director for the Renown Wound Care Center and Renown Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy; Howard Chen, M.D., supervising physician; and Richard Flyer, Clinic Director.

Renown Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy also works closely with Renown Health Wound & Ostomy Care, the region's oldest and largest wound care center. Its certified specialists have more than 90 years of clinical care experience combined, and have been improving outcomes for patients with nonhealing wounds since its inception in 1993.



INDICATIONS FOR HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY

Currently, the FDA approves hyperbaric oxygen therapy for treatment of the following conditions:

- + problem wounds stemming from an injury or illness, including diabetes;
- + radiation tissue damage;
- + osteoradionecrosis;
- + osteomyelitis;
- + necrotizing soft tissue infection;
- + limb salvage, reattachment and amputations;
- + compromised skin grafts due to inadequate blood supply;
- + thermal burns;
- + traumatic crush injuries;
- + compartment syndrome;
- + gas gangrene;
- + air or gas embolism;
- + decompression sickness; and
- + carbon monoxide and cyanide poisoning.

If you believe your patient could benefit from hyperbaric oxygen therapy because he or she is experiencing any of the conditions listed above, referrals to Renown Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy are welcome. Physicians may begin the referral process by calling (775) 982-4268. At this time, eligibility will be determined, and an appropriate treatment plan will be constructed for patients who are candidates for treatment.

Cutting-Edge Technology

Five Sechrist monoplace chambers are available at Renown Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy. One of the five chambers is the 3600E model — the largest chamber available in Northern Nevada — which can accommodate patients up to 700 pounds.

“Having the largest hyperbaric oxygen chamber in Northern Nevada is helpful for both patients and physicians,” says Flyer. “Not only can this chamber accommodate larger patients, but it is also very beneficial for patients experiencing confinement anxiety, which can occasionally occur for patients undergoing hyperbaric oxygen therapy.”

Each appointment takes approximately two hours. Patients generally receive treatment five days a week for six weeks, for a total of 30 treatments.

Patient Qualifications

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy is used to treat a wide variety of conditions. For patients who have multiple nonhealing wounds or who have compromised healing potential due to comorbid conditions, it can present an excellent option.

“Hyperbaric oxygen therapy is not indicated for every patient,” says Dr. Albright. “However, it can enhance the wound healing process and should at least be considered for

Jennifer Schezkla, technician, speaks with a patient during a treatment session.



Frank Irwin, technician, prepares a patient to begin a treatment session.





Maurus Beatty, patient of Dr. Albright, received hyperbaric oxygen therapy to heal his diabetic wounds.

patients who have compromised healing potential.”

“When physicians contact our office to refer a patient, we generally hold a short prereferral screening call,” says Flyer. “At that time, I am able to assess whether I believe the patient is a suitable candidate for hyperbaric oxygen therapy based on whether the condition is an approved, reimbursable condition. If the patient is determined to be a candidate, we will move forward with consultation and treatment planning.”

Keeping Referring Physicians Updated

Once patients have completed an initial evaluation and have been determined to be appropriate candidates, referring physicians receive a letter that outlines the initial care plan. Follow-up phone calls to coordinate care are held as needed, and physicians also receive periodic progress notes.

“Dr. Chen does an excellent job communicating with referring physicians,” says Dr. Albright. “Especially in cases where there are concerns, such as when patients are experiencing claustrophobia, he sends routine updates regarding the patient’s overall care.”

Renown Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy also holds training sessions for physicians who would like to learn more about hyperbaric oxygen therapy and the conditions it is used to treat. Continuing education can be held at the physician’s office upon request. Referring physicians are also welcome to tour the facility.

“We offer in-service opportunities and are happy to meet with physicians in their offices,” says Flyer. “It is also important for referring physicians to see where their patients will receive treatment, so private tours can be arranged at a moment’s notice. I am happy to meet with referring physicians and talk with them about the benefits hyperbaric oxygen therapy can provide to their patients.”

For more information about Renown Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy or to refer your patient, please call (775) 982-4268.

A TESTAMENT TO QUALITY CARE

When Maurus Wayne Beatty, 75, noticed a small sore on his toe, he attributed it to nothing more than wearing sandals that had irritated the skin. However, when the wound failed to close on its own, he became concerned.

“As a diabetic with poor circulation in my legs and feet, I am very conscientious about taking care of my feet and monitoring any wounds,” says Beatty. “When I realized the wound was not healing properly, I went to my primary care physician, who referred me to Dr. Albright [Janet Albright, M.D., Medical Director of the Renown Wound Care Center and Renown Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy] for treatment.”

For several weeks, Beatty received two different intravenous antibiotics seven days a week. However, when it became clear the antibiotics were not going to be effective, surgery became necessary.

“The infection was so bad that Dr. Albright told me I would have to have my toe and potentially part of my foot amputated,” says Beatty. “I was devastated, but the staff at Renown Health, including Dr. Albright, was the best — always upbeat and personable — so I felt hopeful about my condition.”

Four months after surgical amputation, Beatty had trouble healing from surgery. At that time, Dr. Albright suggested an adjunct treatment to standard wound care — hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

“I had read about hyperbaric oxygen therapy online, and I trusted Dr. Albright explicitly,” says Beatty. “She thought this treatment would be best, so I decided to give it a chance.”

After the first treatment, Beatty was unsure. Even though he had had MRIs in the past, confinement anxiety kicked in when he was put in the hyperbaric chamber.

“I was depressed after my first treatment because I didn’t know if I would be able to go through with it,” says Beatty. “However, Dr. Chen was so patient with me. He and Dr. Albright helped me work through my anxiety and prescribed a low-dose sedative that I could take prior to treatment. After a while, I began looking forward to my treatments because they gave me the opportunity to take morning naps.”

The wound started healing after a few weeks and closed after only six weeks, or 30 visits — saving his foot from amputation. A home-health nurse — who had previously been coming three days a week to dress the wound — started coming less frequently and was soon able to release Beatty as a patient.

“I am so grateful for all of the medical care I received,” says Beatty. “The atmosphere is very pleasant, and the staff is wonderful. The positive, upbeat attitudes of my physicians really gave me the incentive to continue treatment. I feel blessed that this medical care was available to me.”