How to get help

* VGH accepts consults anytime for Emergency HBOT at (604) 875-5000

Hyperbaric review

* Hyperbaric Oxygen is clinically defined as 100% Oxygen at 1.4 Absolute atmospheres
* Henry’s law dictates that the amount of dissolved gas is proportional to the pressure above the liquid
* Boyle’s law dictates that gas pressure is inversely proportional to gas volume
* Hyperbaric oxygen:
  + Reduces bubble size in vitro
  + Vasoconstricts, decreasing edema
  + Enhances gas diffusion gradient encouraging inert gas to leave the bubble & dissolve back into solution
  + Can deliver [O2] without heme
  + Has direct antibacterial effects

Emergent hyperbaric indications

* Air/Gas Embolism
* Carbon Monoxide Poisoning
* Decompression sickness
* CRAO

Less Emergent hyperbaric indications

* Idiopathic SSHL
* Gas Gangrene
* Crush injury / Compartment syndrome
* Intracranial abscess
* Necrotizing soft tissue infections
* Osteomyelitis (refractory)
* Delayed radiation injury
* Compromised flaps/grafts
* Acute thermal burns
* Hypoxic wounds
* Anaemia