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Title: Hyperbaric Oxygen Effects on Pain Relief in Patients With Vascular Disease.

Authors: Tufano, R  
Del Gaudio, A  
De Cillis, P

Keywords: Hyperbaric Oxygenation  
pain  
Vascular Disease  
Diabetes Mellitus  
endorphins

Issue Date: 1988

Publisher: Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society, Inc.

Citation: Tufano R, Del Gaudio A, De Cillis P. Hyperbaric Oxygen Effects on Pain Relief in Patients With Vascular Disease. J. Hyperbaric Med 1988; 3 (1): 29-33.

Abstract: This study investigates pain modifications in 40 patients undergoing hyperbaric oxygen (HBO) therapy for acute and chronic vascular disease. The results were evaluated through psychometric tests and the variations of plasma levels of endorphins and ACTH. Our data show that HBO treatment is effective in determining pain relief. It is associated with a decrease of both ACTH and endorphin plasma levels. The analgesic may be secondary to the antiedema effect, to the improvement of local circulation (with lower accumulation of algogen peptides), and to greater affinity of the endorphins to receptorial sites.

Description: Journal of Hyperbaric Medicine : Journal of the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society, Inc.

URI: <http://archive.rubicon-foundation.org/4362>

ISSN: 0884-1225

Appears in Collections: [Journal of Hyperbaric Medicine](#)

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