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Title: Hyperbaric Oxygen and In-Water Rehabilitation in Complete Stroke.

Authors: Marroni, A

Keywords: Hyperbaric Oxygenation  
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Abstract: HBO therapy was studied as an adjunctive treatment for stroke. Satisfactory results were reported for the use of HBO as a predictive tool for EC-IC revascularization procedures. Choice of the appropriate treatment for neurologic indications is also frequently debated. We studied 80 stabilized thrombotic stroke patients who were no longer receiving treatment or care; average age 59.7 yr. average interval from stroke 29.2 mo. Patients were divided into 8 groups: A: control group. B: 30 in-water rehabilitation sessions. C1: 30 HBO sessions at 2.0 ATA. C2: 30 HBO sessions at 1.5 ATA. D1: 30 HBO sessions at 2.0 ATA and 30 in water rehabilitation sessions, at distinct times during the day D2: same as D1, 1.5 ATA HBO treatment pressure. E1: 30 2.0 ATA HBO sessions with simultaneous in-water rehabilitation in our hyperbaric swimming pool. E2: same as E1, 1.5 ATA HBO treatment pressure. The rehabilitation protocol was developed and studied, as well as an objective and quantized Neuromotor Disability Evaluation Scale, in which all patients were evaluated before treatment, every 10 d during treatment, and 1 and 3 mo. after treatment. We observed similar patient improvement on HBO at 1.5 and 2.0 ATA pressure, whereas no significant change could be observed in the non-HBO group: the improvement was particularly evident in the groups treated in

the hyperbaric swimming pool, where a difference was observed between the two treatment pressures, the effects being better at 2.0 ATA. The improvements were still present at the last neuromotor evaluation 3 mo. after treatment.

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