



SERENAGROUP NEWSLETTER

BUILDING THE NATION'S LEADING WOUND CARE TEAM

ISSUE 62 • APRIL 2023

WHY DOES THE ROLE OF HYPERBARIC TECH INCLUDE PATIENT IDENTIFICATION?

ALLY GEORGE, DIRECTOR



This is a question I get a lot: As a hyperbaric technician, you are your resident hyperbaric expert. Some will say "I'll just wait for the wound care doctor to refer if he or she thinks the patient is an appropriate candidate for hyperbaric oxygen therapy." While we are working to constantly provide more education on this topic to make healthcare providers more knowledgeable about HBOT, remember advanced wound care modalities are ever-changing. Meaning as we grow to add more programs, modalities, research studies, wound care products, etc., we can assist the providers by taking this one thing from their plate. Let them leave it to the expert to notify them who qualifies for HBOT, especially, as we expect providers to know the medical necessity for every advanced modality we have. Let us have your back on potential hyperbaric patients. As the hyperbaric tech, what's the number one advanced modality that is always at the top of your mind? Hyperbaric!

We can utilize a patient tracker to monitor potential HBOT candidates. Share this with your provider(s) regularly. I update my patient tracker almost daily so I can ensure that all new patients are investigated for HBOT. I also have a column on my patient tracker that reflects the patient's next wound care visit, which allows me to notify the physician right before he or she sees the patient. Identifying candidates and discussing them with the physician will ensure that appropriate patients get referred to hyperbaric as soon as they qualify, which can help to lower amputation rates. Not all patients that we identify from chart reviews will be candidates owing to obstacles such as claustrophobia, patient refusal, financial concerns, or lack of transportation (document these things). If you document the reason, you can revisit their candidacy at a better time or know not to recommend this patient again. If the tech and provider discuss a case and we're not sure that the patient is a good fit for hyperbaric, let's discuss it with the patient: "Your wound qualifies for hyperbaric oxygen therapy, but you've been missing a lot of visits lately or you never followed up with the vascular surgeon. We're trying to save your limb and heal your wound. This treatment could help a lot (and explain it in depth.) What do you think?" If they qualify, we should offer it.

Let them make decisions on their own.

A hyperbaric tech will be more mindful toward potential candidates and can be an ambassador for this treatment in the advanced wound care center. Patients come to our centers for the highest quality wound care, utilizing advanced modalities. If we work together as a team, we can provide better care with no delays!

SERENA GROUP
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Hyperbaric & Patient Data • P. 1

Monroeville Hyperbaric
Case Study • P. 2 & 3

Education Topics and
Important Dates • P. 3

Lymphedema Day • P. 4

Blue Star Winner • P. 5

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SERENAGROUP OF MONROEVILLE'S HBOT MAIDEN VOYAGE

BY JAIME CAMERON FNP-C



After utilizing numerous traditional and advanced wound care modalities of care, Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) was initiated for a 61-year-old medically complex diabetic patient with a nonhealing DFU. The inaugural dive was held in January 2023. It was the start of The New Year and the start of angiogenesis for an obstinate wound. The treatment plan produced optimal results with wound closure at 30 dives. The patient and medical team were pleased that the limb was healed.

Prior to HBOT, treatment consisted of 30 wound care visits over a one-year period utilizing various traditional and advanced wound care therapies. Traditional therapies included collagen with silver, alginate products, topical and oral antibiotic therapy, and total contact casting. Advanced therapies included the use of Apligraf, Artacent, Sanara Biakos, and Triad Innovomatrix, yielding marginal improvement. Both traditional and advanced therapies were utilized in combination with serial debridement, offloading, and close adherence to dressing management.

The patient's DFU progressed from Wagner 2 to Wagner 3 in December 2022, guiding clinicians to consider HBOT as an adjunctive modality of care in tandem with antibiotic-guided therapy, initiated by Infectious Disease consultation for confirmed osteomyelitis.

The SerenaGroup Monroeville Staff, which included Laura Serena, Kristy Breisinger, Heather Radencic, Michaela Wadsworth, Jaime Cameron, and Meghan Neil, FNP-C as the wound care provider, joined together to provide comprehensive care to a complex patient. Collaborative efforts included the coordination of specialties such as Infectious Disease, Surgery, and Endocrinology as well as clinical trial coordination. All coordinated efforts were integral to the patient's treatment trajectory and healing process.

Review the synopsis of care below

Case study: MJD, 61-year-old Caucasian male being treated for chronic Wagner Grade 3 DFU with a PMH of DMII, HTN, diabetic neuropathy and autism.

Background of wound and prior treatments:

Chronic Wagner 2 evaluated in 1/2022 which progressed to Wagner 3 in 01/2023 with confirmed osteomyelitis and negative ABI's

Traditional therapies:

Collagen with silver, alginate products, topical and oral antibiotic therapy, and total contact casting

Advanced therapies:

Apligraf, Artacent, Sanara Biakos, and Triad Innovomatrix.

HBOT Treatment plan beginning 01/2023:

1. 30 treatments 2.0 ATA x 90 minutes 100% oxygen, no air brakes, concomitant IV therapy with Tygacil for confirmed MRSA for 6 weeks
2. Coordination with endocrinology for optimization of glycemic control
3. Serial debridement as needed, close adherence to dressing changes with attention to exudate control and cleanliness

Outcome and Plan:

Wagner Grade 3 DFU/osteomyelitis -HEALED

Follow up with ophthalmology for vision changes including possible progression of cataracts

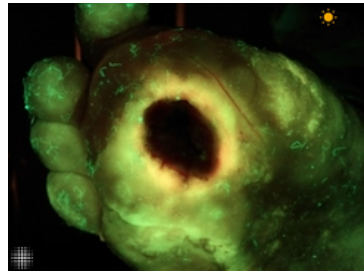
Routine Endocrinology and Wound Care follow-up

Continue offloading of affected area, optimal glycemic control, and optimized nutrition

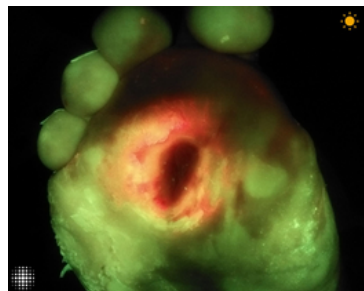
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SERENAGROUP OF MONROEVILLE'S HBOT MAIDEN VOYAGE *CONTINUED*

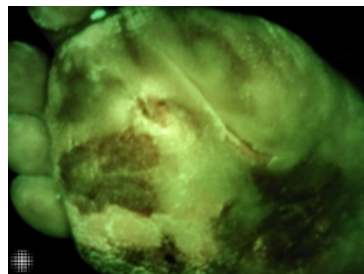
Photographic Documentation:



DFU upgraded to Wagner 3 with protruding bone and heavy serosanguinous exudate with corresponding positive bacterial presence using Moleculight Imaging Device.



Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy: Day 0



End of Treatment: Healed
2 Week Healing Confirmation Visit
100% re-epithelialized with drainage absent

THIS MONTHS EDUCATION TOPICS & IMPORTANT DATES



Monthly Education Topic:
Types of Dressing Changes

HBO Safety Topic:
To Dive or NOT to Dive?

Community Education Area of Focus:
Vascular & OBGYN

April Dates to Remember

WOC Nurse Week -- April 17-23

Move More Month

National Foot Health Awareness Month

Oral Cancer Awareness Month

SERENAGROUP RESEARCH CELEBRATES WORLD LYMPHEDEMA DAY

KRISTY BREISINGER,
MONROEVILLE CENTER

World Lymphedema Day was recognized on March 6th as a common day to educate the world on lymphatic diseases. WLD was founded in 2016 by the United States Senate in response to a bill written by the Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN). SerenaGroup Research understands the importance of wound healing and how it conjunctively works with managing lymphedema with chronic venous leg ulcers. SerenaGroup has partnered with Huntleigh to conduct a multi-center study using Intermittent Pneumatic Compression (or IPC). The IPCOTT Trial is a randomized controlled trial studying the Intermittent Pneumatic Compression of the Thigh for the Treatment of lower limb wounds.

IPC is another way of compressing legs to try and improve the circulation. IPC consists of a sleeve or garment which is applied to the leg. The sleeve is connected to a pump which gently inflates and then deflates it to squeeze the leg in a massage like manner.

THE STUDY

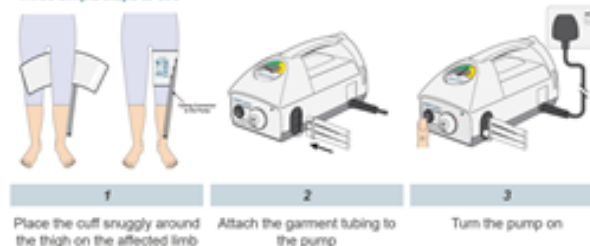
The IPCOTT study aims to find out if a new IPC device, known as the WoundExpress™ can help to heal leg ulcers. The WoundExpress™ has a sleeve that patients put around the thigh, like the one applied to the arm when people have their blood pressure taken. Users need to be either sitting with their legs raised or lying down when using the device. Pressing the 'start' button on the pump causes the sleeve to automatically inflate with air for 2 minutes, until it reaches a pressure of 60 mm/Hg (this is low compared to the pressure used when measuring blood pressure; most patients find it very gentle and comfortable). After the 2-minute inflation, the sleeve will automatically deflate for another 2 minutes, where no compression is applied to the thigh. These 4-minute inflation and deflation cycles will repeat while the device is in use.

World Lymphedema Day was recognized on March 6th as a common day to educate t
People who take part in the study will be randomly allocated to Group A or Group B. Patients in Group A will continue to receive their usual wound care but will also be provided with a WoundExpress™ device to use for 2 hours per day for a 16-week period. Patients in Group B will continue to receive their standard wound treatment only for the 16-week study period (patients in Group B will be offered the chance to use the WoundExpress™ device for a 16 week period after the study has ended).
When the study is complete, results will be analysed to find out if there was any difference in ulcer healing rates between Group A and Group B.

For additional information regarding the trial please contact the trial lead, Sarah Moore at smoore@serenagroups.com. For more product information on WoundExpress™ please contact, Kim Rozman, Kimberly.Rozman@arjo.com

WoundExpress™- Up and running in 3 simple steps!

Three simple steps to use



STUDY DEVICE



SerenaGroup Blue Star Winner



Nicole Schrecengost, Research RN

Nicole is an accomplished research nurse at multiple SerenaGroup Research sites, in addition to functioning as a clinical trial lead and new coordinator educator.

Nicoles work ethic and attention to detail are only two of her many attributes that make her a shining star on SerenaGroup's Clinical Research team.

Thank you for your energy and passion for your work which has helped SerenaGroup Clinical Research elevate to new heights!



UPCOMING 40hr Intro to HBO Courses

Aug 17-20, 2023 | West Palm Beach FL

Nov 9-12, 2023 | West Palm Beach FL

To register for an upcoming course please go to serenagroupinc.com and click on courses.



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