

# The Pressure Point

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## Special points of interest:

- "Alternative" Politics
- Ear Infections
- Coma Recovery
- Anti-aging
- Upcoming Shows and Symposiums

## Alternative Medicine and Hyperbarics

### Recently In the News:

Left over from Clinton's healthcare movement, a commission appointed to determine national policy on alternative medicine sent these recommendations to Health and Human Services Secretary, Tommy Thompson:

► Medicare and other federal health programs should consider paying for safe and effective alternative therapies, and should set up projects to find the best ones to fund.

► HHS should begin a national education campaign on nutrition, stress management, exercise for children, proven alternative health.

► HHS should increase research of alternative therapies, should establish a national office to coordinate research and access to therapies that work.

► Congress should require dietary supplement makers to register with the FDA.

► Congress should provide more funding to the Federal Trade Commission to better target false or misleading

advertising of alternative remedies and HHS should educate consumers on evaluating medical claims.

As a result of this controversial commission, the Bush administration is being asked to consider more medicare coverage of alternative remedies and to set up a national office backing research.



### Editor's note:

Technology and medicine now lead the way. Big Brother has opened the door, and members are asked to put their best foot forward.

Hyperbaric Medicine is not Alternative Medicine, but its many applications are controversial and therefore lumped together with other Alternative Medicine issues.

Also, new effective applications in hyperbarics are being marginalized as "off-label" and "alternative," not from lack of proof, but rather, from the standpoint that they threaten established medicine. Too many money-making giants — specifically giants whose main concern is how to manage a disease, not how to cure it—stand to lose everything.

Our government cannot continue to ignore core issues that affect us all. Please take an active roll in the direction this administration takes with regard to healthcare—alternative or otherwise.

Already we've seen a start by the Bush administration with his National Health Forum.

Hyperbarics—in all its forms will become standard practice in western medicine. This is inevitable. The future of this modality is already here.

Call or write Tommy Thompson, Secretary of Health and Human Services, and advisor to the Bush administration on the best course of action. Remember to include substantiated data to give weight to our cause.

[www.hhs.gov/about/bios/dhhssec.html](http://www.hhs.gov/about/bios/dhhssec.html)

## Hyperbarics Q&A: Ear Infections

**Q:** I suffer from severe ear infections about 4 times a year. I am at the point where I feel that the antibiotics are not working and that I have developed bacteria which is resistant to treatment. A friend told me about hyperbaric medicine and its usefulness against drug-resistant bacteria. Is this something I could try?

**A:** Hyperbaric oxygen is useful against certain types of bacteria, indeed, but such treatments

should not be attempted during a bout of your recurrent infection. Air may be trapped along Eustachian tubes, middle ear, sinuses, etc., because of the accompanying inflammation. As the procedure involves pressure changes, a session during such conditions might be harmful or at least transiently painful, even at low (mild) pressures. Suitable decongestive medication, corticoids, anti-inflammatory enzymes, etc., should be indicated

By Dr. Ignacio Fojgel

by your physician, to attain a lower level of inflammation, compatible with a hyperbaric treatment. Only then could hyperbarics help your immune system fight bacteria, boost formerly ineffective antibiotics, and in general, ameliorate your oxygen status and your cells' energy production and use. Hyperbaric treatments are useful, not only against eventual infectious agents, but also for a better defensive response by your body.

## Awake from Coma: Oren's Story

By Dr. Lane Scott, Ph.D.

*"The Oxygen reached the limbic system of his brain, and during the 3rd treatment, Oren awoke from his coma!"*

Oren's family has signed The Awakening Petition because of the impact that Hyperbaric Neuroxygenation has made for Oren and others like him everywhere. Please consider the gift of your signature and review the

Awakening Petition at:

<http://>

[www.PetitionOnline.com/angel777/petition.html](http://www.PetitionOnline.com/angel777/petition.html)



**Send data to:**  
INTERNATIONAL  
HYPERBARICS  
ASSOCIATION

15810 E. Gale Avenue #178  
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745  
E-mail: [ihausa@hotmail.com](mailto:ihausa@hotmail.com)  
Fax: (323) 888-1591

On April 7th, 2002, 11-year old Oren Zemach drowned in the Jacuzzi swimming pool in his home garden after being sucked in by the powerful pump that pulled him to the bottom of the pool. He was under the 104 F° degree water (40°C) for more than 20 minutes. The pump caused a huge hematoma to his left posterior chest side. Six people were needed to pull him out of the water. According to the rescue team he was found unconscious, without a pulse and not breathing. His GCS was 3. He underwent resuscitation treatment, during which he developed ventricular tachycardia, which was treated with electric cardioversion (200 J).

On admission to the Emergency Department he was mechanically ventilated with life support through an intratracheal tube. The pupils were wide and non-reactive. There were no spontaneous body movements, but his breathing was present. Because of reduced ventilation of the left lung, a plural drain was inserted.

A CT brain scan showed a visible fluid-air level in the sinuses. He was then transferred to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. His temperature was at 102.2°F and the fever did not react to medications. On neurological follow-up he was found to be non-reactive and in a coma.

For the next 4 weeks Oren was in a coma with a very grim prognosis for recovery.

On the day of his transfer to the Rehabilitation Department, Oren's pupils were round and reactive to light, but his eyes did not follow. Spontaneous breathing was supplemented by an oxygen mask.

Dr. Nahum Gal, MD, took responsibility for Oren's care. Dr. Gal consulted with Dr. Richard Neubauer and Dr. Philip James, and on May 7th (one month after the accident), Dr. Gal began treating Oren with Hyperbaric Neuroxygenation in a multiplace chamber, using an oxygen hood and a low pressure of 1.1 ATA for 60 minutes. This was not easy to do since Oren was very agitated from the trauma to his central nervous system and continued in a state of psychomotor restlessness. However, one parent, a doctor and a nurse were present in the hyperbaric chamber. During the treatment, Oren's eyes began to focus and although he tossed and turned back and forth, some eye contact was established.

Oren was treated once a day at 1.1 ATA for 60 minutes. The oxygen reached the limbic system of his brain, and during the 3rd treatment Oren awoke from his coma!

Oren continues to receive Hyperbaric Neuroxygenation

treatments 5 times a week. Dr. Gal says, "It is amazing to see Oren's progress. In no time we established eye contact, then he began to sit up, recognize family and friends, regained his memory, began walking with assistance, eating on his own, and started to form words - not verbally, but with signs. On the recent GMFM test which was administered after the 22nd hyperbaric treatment, Oren scored almost 90%. And this from a boy that was dead for more than 20 minutes!

Oren lives in Israel. His family says he is a little sad because he cannot presently run and play as he could before the accident - but we are all happy he is alive.

Dr. Nahum Gal will continue Hyperbaric Neuroxygenation with Oren until they reach 40 treatments. They will stop to rest for a few weeks, and take more brain scans and tests, and afterwards continue with another 40 Hyperbaric treatments for Oren.

Dr. Nahum Gal uses Hyperbaric Neuroxygenation for treatment of the pediatric brain in various neurological disorders such as cerebral palsy, autism, hypoxia and other conditions.

*The benefit of oxygen begins with the first deep breath of it. Oxygen is to the body and brain what rain is to the desert—it creates an oasis in life.*

### A Call for Documented Studies

The story above documents the treatment of Oren who has recovered from drowning and the coma that resulted.

The International Hyperbarics Association urges members to submit their data for publication. The more people know about the protocols of your study and treatment, the more headway we all stand to make in the medical community.

That, in turn, means ammunition which will effect new legis-

lation regarding how hyperbaric medicine is viewed.

As mentioned before, hyperbarics covers many more indications than what is currently accepted by traditional western medicine. New technology has turned the tide and made hyperbaric medicine more accessible to doctors and patients.

At a recent meeting with one of our members, Dr. Richard Neubauer was pleased to hear about the IHA. Being the true

scientist that he is, he repeatedly emphasized the need for our member doctors to report data and keep accurate treatment and protocol logs.

The International Hyperbarics Association is at your service. If you need forms designed, guidance in setting up a data bank, or record-keeping help, please let us know. Do not let these paltry details hinder the cause of hyperbarics and your research. We all stand to benefit.

## Incorporating Mild Pressure Hyperbarics into an Anti-Aging Practice

By Michael I. Leeman, M. D.



Anti-aging Medicine is the fastest growing new medical specialty in the USA. Anti-aging Medicine treats the aging

process itself as a disease and its objective is to slow down and reverse age-related dysfunction, whether it is mental, physical, sexual or emotional. The primary modality typically is natural hormone replacement therapy combined with nutritional medicine. Anti-aging Medicine's therapeutic goal is to help patients look and feel younger, improve mental function, restore sexual ability and strength, and enhance energy and mood.

As Medical Director of the Longevity Clinic of La Jolla, I have been specializing in Anti-Aging Medicine for the past 6 years. During the past year, I have incorporated the use of mild hyperbaric oxygen treatments to enhance health and vitality in normal aging patients and to offer a natural medicine alternative for treating some of the more devastating health consequences of aging.

Hyperbaric oxygen provides a therapeutic dose of oxygen, the most basic of cellular fuel, in a unique way which promotes rapid healing. I have found that clinical use of hyperbaric therapy is capable of healing chronic injury, chronic pain, and tissue damage throughout the body including the brain. Hyperbaric oxygen therapy effectively accelerates surgical and wound healing, cures exposure to toxins, helps people sleep better and energizes the mind and relaxes the body.

I have also been very impressed with the results hyperbaric oxygen therapy produces in patients that conventional medicine considers therapeutic challenges (i.e. chronic stroke patients, cerebral palsy, fibromyalgia, Parkinson's Disease). For example, I have treated over a dozen chronic stroke patients, and remarkably, everyone of them has responded favorably and dramatically, even those who have had strokes over 20 years ago and had previously shown no improvement for decades.

I have found that using hyperbaric oxygen in combination with Anti-aging Hormone Replacement and Nutritional Medicine helps patients heal very rapidly from the consequences of neurological disease. Natural hormone replacement therapy provides anabolic support to combat atrophy of unused muscle and promotes the health of the circulatory system. Nutritional Medicine can identify and reverse the risk factors that promote stroke in order to promote healing and prevent a second stroke.

The addition of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy has transformed my clinical practice. There are few thrills in Medicine that can equal watching a stroke patient who has been paralyzed for 9 years start to walk again or seeing a chronic Parkinson's patient's symptoms resolve over several months.

Now that I have witnessed first-hand how effective this protocol is in healing neurological problems and in relieving so much previously untreatable suffering, I am working toward making this therapy much more widely available.

In addition to helping other doctors offer Hyperbaric therapy throughout the USA, I am conducting clinical trials to document the efficacy of this treatment, because hyperbaric therapy, despite its popularity in Europe, Russia and China, is currently relatively unfamiliar to most US physicians and patients; only ~10% of US Medical Schools have access to hyperbaric chambers and consequently most US physicians are not trained in Hyperbaric Medicine.

Another barrier to the mainstream use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy is that in the past this technology was very costly to install and administer. However, recent technological breakthrough in material and design has resulted in the mild-pressure chamber, which makes hyperbaric therapy much more affordable and convenient to use.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy is becoming the treatment of choice for many current, poorly treated conditions of aging. Fortunately, with the advent of the mild pressure hyperbaric chamber, Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy is becoming more accessible to the many types of patients who had been unaware of its existence and who can benefit greatly from its use.

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy is the medicine of the future, available now. It's ability to harness, concentrate and deliver the fundamental energy of oxygen to accelerate healing and promote good health in a safe and effective way makes it a primary therapeutic tool, which should be readily available to every physician and patient in the country.

*"Hyperbaric oxygen provides a therapeutic dose of oxygen, the most basic of cellular fuel, in a unique way which promotes rapid healing."*

*"There are few thrills in Medicine that can equal watching a stroke patient who has been paralyzed for 9 years start to walk again..."*

**Dr. Leeman practices medicine in La Jolla, California. You may visit his website at [www.hyperbaricmed.com](http://www.hyperbaricmed.com) or contact him at [info@hyperbaricmed.com](mailto:info@hyperbaricmed.com)**

*"Mundo vitam dare"*



## INTERNATIONAL HYPERBARICS ASSOCIATION

15810 E Gale Avenue #178  
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Visit us at :  
[www.ihausa.org](http://www.ihausa.org) or  
[ihausa@hotmail.com](mailto:ihausa@hotmail.com)



**Reminder:** Don't forget to tune in to **Discovery Health, The Healing Chamber**, scheduled to broadcast in July and August. Check your local channel listing for times and dates.

The *International Hyperbarics Association* is a coalition of doctors, parents, patients, corporate chamber manufacturers, hyperbaric center owners, and above all members who are committed to the cause of medical hyperbarics. Our members come to us from all geographical areas with one common goal— to share their knowledge and information regarding the latest hyperbaric news. Our driving force is our members, who are committed to do all we can "to give life to the world."

For questions, comments, or submittals regarding this or future publications, please e-mail at the listed site or call:

Maria Valencia, President and Editor-in-Chief,  
(323) 459-7912 or fax to (323) 888-1591

*Many thanks to our valued members  
who have made this issue possible.*

## Upcoming Medical Shows and Symposiums

**October 2-5, 2002**

### XIV International Congress on Hyperbaric Medicine

San Francisco, CA USA

[www.ichm.net](http://www.ichm.net)

**Call for Abstracts** by August 1;

Abstracts will be accepted on:

1. Clinical Applications of HBOT
2. Decompression Procedures
3. Decompression Illness
4. Hyperbaric System Safety
5. Psychological and Biochemi-



cal Effects of Oxygen

6. Technological Aspects of HBOT

**Check out their website or call  
the IHA for help or presenta-  
tion design.**