

Medicare covers Hyperbarics to Heal Bleeding Bladders

Numerous research studies confirm that hyperbarics heals radiation proctitis and cystitis in 89% of patients. It is approved by the FDA and is covered by Medicare and most private insurance companies to treat radiation proctitis, cystitis, soft-tissue necrosis, and other complications from radiation therapy.



This is the **Patient view** of the brochure.

How Hyperbarics Helps



Reduces pain and swelling



Salvages and revitalizes
damaged tissues



Builds new blood vessels



Increases blood supply to
tissues and bones



Heals infections and
supercharges antibiotics



Produces and mobilizes
stem cells



Softens fibrous tissue,
which often inhibits range
of motion



Regrows healthy new tissue



And other radiation induced injuries to the pelvic region, including radiation proctitis, proctopathy and more

Radiation treatment can destroy cancer and save a patient's life, but it also can induce secondary injuries such as burning, infections, and in rare cases severely damage the lymphatic system or even lead to paralysis. This kind of damage is known as Hemorrhagic Cystitis or bleeding bladder, and includes conditions like pelvic wounds, vaginal fissures, rectal fissures, urinary urgency, frequency and incontinence, and bleeding. Traditional medical solutions to treat this condition, such as blood transfusions or surgery, are often painful; worst of all, experts still do not have a reliable method of predicting who and when a patient will express these symptoms, with some patients experiencing severe symptoms decades after their radiation therapy was administered.

The good news is that hyperbaric oxygen therapy is a proven (Riberio de Oliveira et al 2015, Shilo et al 2013 and Cardinal et al 2018), natural treatment for radiation damage. At BAH we see many people with collateral radiation damage, sometimes 20+ years after their radiation treatments, and have successfully used hyperbaric oxygen therapy to treat the side effects. Hyperbaric medicine halts tissue degradation from radiation and prevents worsening of symptoms. It also prevents ongoing damage, such as bone loss, infections, wounds, bleeding and pain. Hyperbarics also heals by stimulating bone cells to reproduce rapidly, by growing new tiny blood vessels that feed healthy new cells, and causing new stem cells to grow and migrate to damaged areas. Along with growing the new tiny blood vessels and lymph system, it also regenerates nerve cells (including those in the brain!).

We encourage people with radiation damage to seek treatment with hyperbaric oxygen therapy quickly, because the greater the radiation damage the harder it is to treat - sometimes the damage can be so great that it's even impossible to treat.

With that said, we are very proud to mention that Fiona St. John, the mother of the owner of Bay Area Hyperbarics, Lisa St. John, was treated successfully for radiation damage with hyperbaric oxygen that was administered decades after her radiation exposure.

Can HBOT Stimulate Cancer? Some people wonder: If hyperbaric oxygen therapy stimulates cell reproduction, could it also stimulate growth of cancer cells? It is a thoughtful concern, so there have been many researchers and published studies by oncologists and others that show HBOT does not cause cancer cells or tumors to grow or multiply. That means that HBOT will not stimulate cancer recurrence or growth. They wrote "the conclusion in both reviews was that HBO did not promote cancer growth, and that the use of HBO in patients with malignancies was considered safe." Target Oncol. 2012 Dec; 7(4): 233-242. In fact, some recent studies in mice have shown that hyperbaric oxygen therapy can reduce and even reverse the growth of tumors in the breast. At this point, more data is required to confirm such a hypothesis, but the data appears promising!

In addition, some studies show that treating head and neck radiation injuries with hyperbarics can produce a reduction in cancer recurrence. The hypothesis of these researchers is that hyperbaric oxygen therapy repairs damaged mitochondria in some precancerous and damaged cells. This too has not been confirmed, and yet data from these studies also appears quite promising.

A large percentage of Providers who refer patients to Bay Area Hyperbarics also prescribe hyperbaric oxygen therapy pre- and post-surgery, to strengthen the tissues and bones and ensure that healing occurs successfully and without complications. With radiation damaged in areas such as the head and neck, 20 treatments of hyperbaric oxygen are often prescribed before

surgery to regrow tissues, bones and stabilize the jaw. After surgery, these patients are prescribed 10 treatments to complete the healing, and to prevent complications. At Bay Area Hyperbarics, we have successfully treated patients with radiation damage

for over 24 years. Hyperbaric medicine has helped hundreds of patients return to normal lives. Most patients also tell us that hyperbarics healed their fatigue from “chemo brain” and radiation, so they could regain their previous high levels of energy.

Patient Experiences

Listen to what real patients have to say about their experiences.



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Fiona, a lively and proud mother of five grown children and an avid gardener, had received radiation many years prior to her arriving at Bay Area Hyperbarics, that emerged as damage to her bone. It caused a severe infection in the bones in the roof of her mouth. In addition, Fiona was concerned about her low energy levels. Before HBOT, Fiona's doctors had tried antibiotics, to no avail. But with HBOT and antibiotics together, it cured the bone infection in her mouth, and healed and regrew her bones and gums. She said she also got back enough energy that she could again garden.

Fiona, 62

HBOT cured a bone infection, regrew her bones and gums and helped her regain her energy.



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Howard had very painful open sores in his mouth as a result of cancer treatment. He had already lost a few teeth, and he and his doctor were concerned that he might lose more. But what worried his son even more was that Howard had lost too much weight. Fortunately for Howard, HBOT stabilized two loose teeth and healed his mouth sores. His ability to chew again then enabled him to eat enough that he returned to a healthy weight.

Howard, 54

Stabilized teeth, healed his mouth sores and increased weight to a healthy level.



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Josephina, a 61-year-old woman, lived and took care of an elderly friend half the year on the coast of Oregon. She is a quiet spoken, thoughtful woman who had cancer in her mouth 18 years prior to coming in for hyperbaric oxygen therapy. The radiation that was used to treat her cancer many years before was very successful. However, she went to her dentist and complained of her tooth feeling loose. The radiation had started to damage the circulation in her mandible and her gums. Her tooth had died and her dentist wanted to remove it. Her dentist also thought that she had two other teeth that were threatened as well.

Josephina was sent to an oral surgeon who diagnosed osteoradionecrosis, which is death of the bone due to radiation injury. The blood vessels in the jaw start to die off due to radiation damage. When this happens the bone can get very fragile and sometimes fracture which creates a much bigger problem including a long and difficult recovery. So to avoid this, and prior to taking out her tooth, her surgeon sent her for hyperbaric treatments. The Marx protocol was used which included 20 treatments prior to removing the tooth to revascularize and thus strengthen the jaw. After removing the tooth Deborah returned for the remaining 10 more session to insure the bone heals up properly. In her case, Josephina was fortunate that the bone was strengthened with hyperbarics prior to more teeth dying. Indeed, she was pleased that she did not lose any further teeth. Two years later she came back to visit and say hello. She still had all the rest of her teeth.

Josephina, 61

Radiation damaged circulation in her mouth, threatening her teeth. HBOT saved her teeth.

Patients: Get Started with Hyperbarics

Its easy to get started with Hyperbarics. Just follow these simple steps.

1 Give us a call

Did a physician refer you? If so, they can download and fax us back a patient referral form. If not, our medical staff will discuss whether hyperbarics is right for you.

2 We talk with your insurance

Our medical staff contacts Medicare or private insurance to receive authorization and create a plan with you.

3 Patient starts HBOT

Our medical staff meets with the patient to ensure that HBOT is appropriatre, and contacts Medicare or private insurance to receive authorization.



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consultation



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