Bay Area
HYPERBARICS
The power to heal

Hyperbaric Oxygen Treats Central Retinal Artery Occlusion

If you or a loved-one has sudden vision loss, go to the ER right away and require them to approve hyperbaric medicine. It's your best chance for recovery.

How Hyperbarics Helps

- O_2 Delivers oxygen directly to the retina and retinal artery, helping to heal the occlusion
- Improves blood flow
- Reduces inflammation that can cause restriction around your retinal arteries
- Promotes the growth of new blood vessels

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy is your best chance for recovering your eyesight!

Central retinal artery occlusion, (CRAO) occurs when the central retinal artery, which supplies blood to the retina, becomes blocked. This causes a sudden loss of vision in one eye that is painless, but unfortunately usually permanent. A patient with CRAO should go to a hospital emergency room immediately, and should be considered for hyperbaric oxygen treatment within 24 hours of the injury. When the retina does not receive adequate oxygen and nutrients, it can lead to irreversible damage and loss of vision. Even though hyperbaric oxygen therapy provides the best chance of recovery from CRAO, recovery from

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CRAO is never assured. The treatment protocol for hyperbaric therapy is complex with CRAO, depending on the patient's response. If you or a loved-one has experienced vision loss in one eye, go to the emergency room immediately and require them to approve hyperbaric oxygen therapy as your best chance for recovery!

By providing oxygen at high concentrations under pressure, HBOT can increase the oxygen supply to the retina, bypassing the blocked artery and promoting tissue survival. The increased oxygen levels also stimulate the formation of new blood vessels, which can help restore blood flow to the affected area and prevent further damage. In addition to improving oxygen delivery, HBOT also reduces inflammation in the retina. Inflammation is a normal physiological response to tissue injury, but when it becomes excessive, it can lead to tissue damage and impaired healing. In CRAO, the blockage of the central retinal artery triggers an inflammatory response that can exacerbate the damage to the retina. HBOT has been shown to reduce inflammation by decreasing the production of inflammatory cytokines and promoting the release of anti-inflammatory mediators. This anti-inflammatory effect can help reduce tissue damage and enhance healing in CRAO. HBOT can also promote the growth of new blood vessels in the retina, a process known as neovascularization. Neovascularization is a critical component of tissue repair as it supplies oxygen and nutrients to the damaged tissue.

Studies have shown that HBOT can promote the growth of new blood vessels by activating a group of proteins called hypoxia-inducible factors (HIFs). HIFs are involved in the regulation of blood vessel formation and can promote the growth of new vessels in response to low oxygen levels. By promoting neovascularization, HBOT can help restore blood flow to the affected area and enhance tissue repair in CRAO.

HBOT is a safe and well-tolerated therapy, and its use in treating CRAO is supported by several clinical studies. A recent meta-analysis of 17 studies on the use of HBOT in CRAO found that HBOT significantly improved visual acuity and reduced the risk of developing neovascular glaucoma, a severe complication of CRAO. Another study showed that HBOT improved visual acuity and reduced the size of the ischemic area in the retina in patients with CRAO.

The key point here is that if you or a loved one have experienced CRAO, get into the emergency room now, request a prescription for hyperbaric oxygen therapy, and call us. In most cases, we can get you in the same day. Speed to first treatment is critical in helping overcome CRAO.

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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.

Physicians: Refer a Patient

Refer a patient in three easy steps.

1 **You submit patient's information**

As a provider, your office fills out and faxes back the Patient Referral Form. Have questions? Call us!

2 **We get authorizations**

We make sure the patient understands treatment and then follow the prescribed protocol to get the patient on the road to recovery!

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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Reach out to us

We're here to help.

Contact us today to learn more about how hyperbaric oxygen therapy can help you.

Call Us: (408) 356-7438

FOR PATIENTS

Scan for free consultation

FOR PHYSICIANS

Scan for Patient Referral Form