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DEPARTMENT PROFILE:

HYPERBARIC OXYGEN TREATMENT CENTRE

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBO) is a treatment modality in which the patient breathes 100% oxygen at a pressure greater than the atmospheric pressure. This results in high concentration of oxygen reaching the tissues and benefits patients whose recovery from illness is impaired due to poor oxygen delivery to tissues.

Those who will benefit most are patients with acute traumatic wounds and crush injuries, compartment syndrome, burns, gas gangrene etc. In many cases like carbon monoxide poisoning from exposure to smoke, HBO therapy is the first line of



treatment and should be given as soon as possible to prevent permanent delayed neurological complications. While HBO therapy expedites healing of bone in patients with chronic Osteomyelitis, it is the only treatment for radiation induced complications such as bone necrosis, cystitis and enteritis. Non-healing ulcers due to diabetes, radiation or any other cause and Decubitus Ulcers (Bed sores) in selective patients will heal faster with HBO therapy. The benefits

of HBO therapy is still being researched in many other conditions.

The establishing of this centre has been a real challenge being the first private centre in this field. The cost of this treatment at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals will only be a fraction of international costs and will result in significant savings to the patient due to faster recovery and reduced hospital stay. Treatment is safe and has hardly any side-effects. Admission is not necessary for this therapy and most chronic care patients are treated as outpatients.

Dr Tarun Sahni is the Consultant in charge of the Department and is assisted by Jai Singh, the Hyperbaric Technician, both of whom have many years of experience in this field. Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals is a state-of-art equipment focused at patient safety and comfort and will compare with the best centres in the world.