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Turning Back Time Through Excellence in Cosmetic Surgery and Laser TreatmentsSM

Early in my surgical training I was impressed with the results of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBO) on wound healing with diabetics and patients with decubitus ulcers. When portable chambers became available, I immediately seized upon the opportunity to apply this technology to my cosmetic-surgery practice.

Five years ago, I began placing patients scheduled for liposuction, abdominoplasty, augmentation mammoplasty, eyelid surgery, face and neck lift, alloplastic facial implants and laser cosmetic skin resurfacing in my HBO chamber for one-hour pre-operatively, then daily, post-op for five days.

Across the board, my patients demonstrated significantly accelerated wound healing, diminished edema and ecchymosis. My infection rate for this group was zero per-cent. Facial cosmetic skin resurfacing (CSR) patients showed complete reepithelialization after 72 hours.

These results have created happy patients whose expectations regarding recovery and return-to-work were greatly exceeded. Patients are thrilled to be able to return to normal activity levels significantly faster than those who did not receive treatment.

I have observed even more gratifying results with troublesome clinical problems and or surgical complications. For example, venous stasis ulcers treated with sclerotherapy and HBO resolve rapidly. Moreover, two post-op abdominoplasties who developed umbilical necrosis were placed on HBO, Tegaderm dressings, dibridement, showed complete resolution within five days.

I can envision numerous other beneficial applications including adding HBO to split-thickness and full-thickness skin grafts, small and large volume fat transfer with enhanced vascularization of newly grafted fat cells to name a few. Finally, in my own experience, HBO therapy has impressed me most as a tool which accelerates wound healing with reliable minimization of risk for post-op infection and complication. The economic benefits for the surgeon and patient alike justify adding HBO to any surgical practice.

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