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Date: 12/17/24
From: UHMS HBO₂ Safety Committee
RE: **MEDFAQ Response**

Deleted: 9/28/2020

MEDFAQ Question: We have a pt that has been referred for HBOT for radiation cystitis. He has an artificial sphincter which has pump that is filled with saline. The manufacturer does not have information on safety in the HBOT chamber. Does anyone have information on this?

Thank you for your question. The UHMS HBO₂ Safety Committee can provide information to assist you in answering your question, but the ultimate responsibility for these types of questions rests with the Medical Director and Safety Director of your facility.

Several members of the UHMS HBO₂ Safety Committee have expressed no concerns allowing implanted artificial urethral sphincters. This is mainly due to the fact that these devices are fluid filled and wholly enclosed in the body, and therefore changes in atmospheric pressure should not affect its operation or cause harm to the patient.

As a precaution, the committee recommends discussing this with the patient's urologist and including them in the decision-making process. We also suggest documenting your risk assessment well and ensuring that the information is shared with the patient as part of the informed consent process. The UHMS HBO₂ Safety Committee considers this device to be compatible in either the Monoplace or Multiplace hyperbaric environment.

Respectfully,

The UHMS HBO₂ Safety Committee

DISCLAIMER

Neither the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS) staff nor its members are able to provide medical diagnosis or recommend equipment over the internet. If you have medical concerns about hyperbaric medicine you need to be evaluated by a doctor licensed to practice medicine in your locale, which can provide you professional recommendations for hyperbaric medicine based upon your condition. The responsibility of approving the use of equipment resides with the physician and safety director of the facility. *Information provided on this forum is for general educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice of your own health care practitioner and you should not rely upon it as though it were specific medical advice given to you personally.*