

UHMS Position Statement
Conduct of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy
At Sites Other Than Clinical Hyperbaric Treatment Facilities

In the interest of optimizing patient safety and upholding best clinical practices, the UHMS supports the conduct of hyperbaric oxygen (HBO₂) treatment only at those facilities that meet the operational and supervisory criteria set forth in the UHMS Position Statements on “Standards for Clinical Hyperbaric Treatment Facilities” and “Clinician Attendance.” In HBO₂ treatment settings other than these, it is unlikely that compliance with mandatory federal, state and local codes governing the design, construction, installation and operation of hyperbaric chambers can be maintained. Thus, patients, attendants and treatment bystanders compromise their personal safety in such poorly regulated settings. Further, without the consistent on-site availability of appropriately trained and credentialed hyperbaric medical personnel, reasonable compliance with evidenced-based HBO₂ treatment regimens, adequate monitors of treatment complication and timely assessments of patient response to prescribed HBO₂ therapy cannot be assured. Accordingly, the UHMS does not endorse the conduct of “in-home” hyperbaric oxygen therapy at any time. Similarly, except in the case of clinical or operational emergencies, the UHMS does not endorse the delivery of HBO₂ therapy by hyperbaric treatment facilities that do not conform to the criteria established in the above referenced position statements.