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THANK YOU FOR JOINING US AT THE 2023 ASM
President's Column

Pete Witucki, MD, FUHM
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The UHMS Annual Scientific Meeting was held June 16-18 in San Diego, California and was a big success. The meeting was well attended and the feedback we have received has been mostly positive. Thank you to all of the people who worked very hard to make this event happen. Mark your calendars for ASM 2024 which will be held in New Orleans from June 13-15.

Read more on the website

Executive Director's Report

John Peters, MBA, FACHE
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Greetings from all of us here at UHMS!

In my prior note, we were in the final preparations for hosting the UHMS ASM in San Diego. We were cautiously optimistic about attendance with the pandemic in our rear view mirror and hoped that a combination of stellar content and faculty, the ASM being in San Diego, and the hotel and conference center’s location on the water would bring out our members once again.

Read more on the website

BNA Column

Strategies for Caring for the Pediatric Population in the Multiplace Hyperbaric Chamber

Kevin Kraft, BSN, ACHRN, CNML
Francis Turcotte, BSN, ACHRN
Maria Neville, BSN, PCCN
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Hyperbaric therapy in the pediatric population has a longstanding history. Records have shown treatments dating back to the 1920’s. For this article, we will consider the pediatric population those under the age of 16.

Read more on the website
Hyperbaric Facility Accreditation

Derall Garrett, CIHT

Keeping oneself informed and up-to-date with information
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**UHMS is a valuable source of information for healthcare professionals.**

One way this information is shared is through the UHMS website. An example of an important document that can be found on the website is the UHMS Guidelines for Credentialing, Privileging, and Supervision of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy in the U.S.A. ([https://www.uhms.org/images/Position-Statements/UHMS_Cred_and_Priv_Guide_2022_final_Jul_2023_V4.pdf](https://www.uhms.org/images/Position-Statements/UHMS_Cred_and_Priv_Guide_2022_final_Jul_2023_V4.pdf)). This document was first created in 2009 and has been updated regularly since then. However, it is surprising to find that many healthcare facilities are still unaware of this document. By following this guideline, facilities can provide the best possible care to their patients. While I will not be discussing the current updates, I will highlight some of the key items that are commonly found during a survey.

Read more on the website

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**Safety Committee Message**

Sherry Ferguson

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure
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Not just in human health but in the life of your hyperbaric equipment, a preventative maintenance program keeps your systems running efficiently, economically, and most importantly safely.

Preventative maintenance is the act of performing regularly scheduled maintenance activities to help prevent unexpected failures in the future. When properly performed and documented according to a plan it can reduce downtime, financial costs, prevent fines, and ultimately reduce liability. If you are lucky enough to have purchased a system that came with a schedule, it may be as simple as ensuring it is being followed and documented. For many however, especially multiplace chambers that had several components that were installed separately over the years, this may require a custom schedule to be developed.

This can pose quite a challenge and requires one to reference the manufacturer’s recommendations and cross reference with standards such as the NFPA, PVHO, CGA or CSA and regulations (if any) set by the local authority having jurisdiction.

If you are starting from scratch to create a new plan or updating an existing plan, knowing where to start is the first step. The Divers Alert Network (www.dan.org) has a safety & prevention section that has resources for chamber operators.

Read more on the website

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UHMS Hyperbaric Facility Accreditation
Guidelines for Hyperbaric Facility Operations provides guidance in training, responsibility, staffing, safety, and quality assurance for hyperbaric medicine facilities.

This new edition includes these updates:
- a new section on research, teaching & publication
- Physician/NPP proctorship and credentials
- RN guidelines and responsibilities
- an enhanced section on LPN/LVN job description
- an addition of the CHS/CHWS certifications
- safety changes and updates
- non-clinical manager changes to job description and recommended training

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The goal of education is the advancement of knowledge and the dissemination of truth.

~ John F. Kennedy

Multicenter Hyperbaric Outcomes Registry: 2025 Q3 Update
Elaine M. Silverman, MD, MPH
Linda Zhang, MS
Jay C. Buckey, MD
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The Multicenter Hyperbaric Outcomes Registry collects a defined set of outcome measures for all 14 UHMS-approved, and for some emerging hyperbaric oxygen treatment indications. The registry is a consortium of participating treatment centers. All participating sites use the same Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) template, which defines the data elements collected for every patient.

Read more on the website

Quality, Utilization, Authorization and Reimbursement Committee "QUARC"
Important information from Intellicure
Caroline Fife, MD

Hyperbaric medicine practitioners should check to ensure that their place of service (POS) is being correctly billed for hyperbaric chamber supervision. The “place of service” at which hyperbaric oxygen therapy is being provided is identified on the physician’s claim by two-digit numbers. The doctor’s office is POS 11 or 49 and the hospital-based site is POS 21 (or 19, if off-campus). Why does the POS designation on the physician claim matter?

Read more on the website

23 AWARDS

- Albert R. Behnke Award: Michael Strauss, MD: Dr. Strauss’ Remarks
- Excellence in Commercial Diving Award: Philip Bryson
- Excellence in Diving Medicine Award: Robert “Bob” Sanders, MD

Read more on the website
Congratulations Award Winners

This year’s award winners were honored at ASM in San Diego

The Behnke Award:
Michael Strauss, MD

Excellence in Commercial Diving:
Philip Bryson, MD

Excellence in Diving Medicine:
Bob Sanders, MD

Excellence in Hyperbaric Medicine:
Shai Efrati, MD
(Mark Peterson accepting)

The Young Scientist/Medical Doctor:
Kristi Ray, MD

The Paul Baker Award:
Andrew Melnychenko

Excellence in Critical Care Hyperbaric Medicine:
Geness Koumandakis

Best Overall Oral Presentation:
Lindell Weaver
(Marc Robins accepting)

Best Overall Trainee/Resident Oral Presentation:
William Toppen, MD

Best Overall Poster Presentation:
Leo Tanaka

Best Overall Trainee/Resident Poster Presentation:
Nine blocks total comprise 100-plus hours of self-directed learning and an emergency hyperbaric management and procedure skills lab.

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