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Hyperbaric oxygen therapy in the treatment of open fractures

and crush injuries.

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This article focuses on the use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOt) in the treatment of

open fractures and crush injuries. Based on the clinical evidence and cost analysis, med-

ical institutions that treat open fracture and crush injuries are justified in incorporating HBOt

as a standard of care. Both Medicare and Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society guide-

lines list crush injuries as an approved indication for HBOt. Emergency physicians should

familiarize themselves with this emerging treatment modality because of their role in the

early management of these injuries.

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