

POSITION STATEMENT

Following is the position statement of the Ocean Hyperbaric Neurologic Center regarding the "investigational" status of hyperbaric oxygen in the treatment of cerebral palsy and the brain injured child.

Although hyperbaric oxygen therapy for the treatment of CP and the brain injured child, is considered investigational by the insurance industry it must be noted that:

For children with CP, traumatic brain injury, anoxic ischemic encephalopathy and autism there is no protocol of standard medical care. Therefore, all commonly prescribed medications for the treatment of same as well as all standard modalities of physical, speech, and occupational therapies must be considered investigational or experimental. Lacking a standard plan of care means that all medications and therapeutic approaches are determined by trial and error until a specific treatment plan is determined by experimentation of procedures optimal for each individual child. Most of these children remain in a level of supportive care all of their lives because no treatment has evolved that is universally effective for their recovery. At the Ocean Hyperbaric Neurologic Center we have demonstrated a 90% success rate in improving these children's conditions, albeit some more dramatically than others. Clearly, functional brain imaging with single photon emission computerized tomography (SPECT) scans pre and post hyperbaric oxygen therapy demonstrates the efficacy of the treatment in these cases.

Ocean Hyperbaric Neurologic Center's stance on this procedure is that although many consider it "investigational", we have found that this treatment is highly effective and medically and scientifically sound in the treatment of these children.