Hyperbaric oxygen promotes wound healing and reduces the risk of amputation

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BACKGROUND: The aim of this pilot study was to determine the benefits of hyperbaric oxygen (HBO) therapy for chronic wounds in patients with chronic limb-threatening ischemia (CLTI).

PATIENTS AND METHODS: The study was performed as a retrospective cohort study, with five patients with CLTI included. Patients were treated with HBO after endovascular treatment (EVT).

RESULTS: Of five patients with CLTI, three had diabetes, while two did not. Following EVT, three patients underwent toe-level amputations, and two required debridement of necrotic tissue. HBO therapy administered post-EVT enhanced wound healing, eliminating the need for further amputations in all five patients.

CONCLUSIONS: Treatment of chronic wounds in patients with CLTI requires a multidisciplinary approach. HBO therapy can be used as an adjunctive therapy to the standard therapy modality, as it can increase the healing rate of wounds and reduce the number of amputations.