



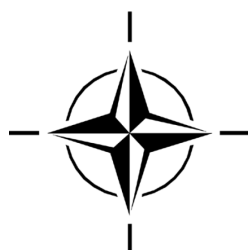
STO TECHNICAL REPORT

TR-HFM-192

Optimal Use of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy in Military Medical Setting

(Utilisation optimale de l'oxygénothérapie
hyperbare dans le contexte militaire)

The Task Group on Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy in military medical setting explored the usefulness of hyperbaric oxygenation for medical conditions encountered in operational military settings; taking into account the technical specificities and constraints of hyperbaric oxygen therapy administration, recommendations are made as to the optimal implementation of this treatment.



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- HFM Human Factors and Medicine Panel
- IST Information Systems Technology Panel
- NMSG NATO Modelling and Simulation Group
- SAS System Analysis and Studies Panel
- SCI Systems Concepts and Integration Panel
- SET Sensors and Electronics Technology Panel

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ISBN 978-92-837-2026-3

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE			
1. Recipient's Reference	2. Originator's References	3. Further Reference	4. Security Classification of Document
	STO-TR-HFM-192 AC/323(HFM-192)TP/664	ISBN 978-92-837-2026-3	PUBLIC RELEASE
5. Originator Science and Technology Organization North Atlantic Treaty Organization BP 25, F-92201 Neuilly-sur-Seine Cedex, France			
6. Title Optimal Use of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy in Military Medical Setting			
7. Presented at/Sponsored by The Task Group on Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy in military medical setting explored the usefulness of hyperbaric oxygenation for medical conditions encountered in operational military settings; taking into account the technical specificities and constraints of hyperbaric oxygen therapy administration, recommendations are made as to the optimal implementation of this treatment.			
8. Author(s)/Editor(s) Multiple			9. Date February 2016
10. Author's/Editor's Address Multiple			11. Pages 84
12. Distribution Statement There are no restrictions on the distribution of this document. Information about the availability of this and other STO unclassified publications is given on the back cover.			
13. Keywords/Descriptors			
Acoustic trauma	Hyperbaric medicine	Strategic evacuation planning	
Anaerobic infections	Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy	Submarine rescue planning	
Complex trauma	(HBO)	Treatment of battle wounds	
Diving accident treatment	Medevac		
14. Abstract			
<p>Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBO) is a treatment based on the respiration of high concentrations (up to 100%) of oxygen, while patients are exposed to high environmental pressures in a "hyperbaric chamber". This treatment has been shown to be beneficial in a number of conditions/injuries, some of which are pertinent to military-type injuries.</p> <p>When administered timely and in a correct way, HBO improves the evolution and final outcome; however, because of the technical limitations of the treatment (necessity of a hyperbaric chamber, adequate oxygen and compressed air supplies, competent medical and paramedical personnel), HBO centers are not common, even in non-military setting.</p> <p>The RTG-192 examined the possible military applications of HBO, and defined the conditions for its use. While not realistic to suggest the placement of HBO centers close to operations theatres, it may be possible to organize the medical evacuation routes in such a way that military patients can be treated in a (civilian or military) hyperbaric center "along the route", for a short period, before being further evacuated to their final destination.</p> <p>Conditions and modalities for efficient use have been formulated, and recommendations have been made as to medical planning and education of military medical personnel.</p>			





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