

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) for paediatric patients undergoing a revision operation for hypospadias

What is HBOT?

HBOT is giving pure oxygen at pressures above normal atmospheric pressure. At some centres in the world, small clinical trials have shown that HBOT may help outcomes of hypospadias operations, particular for patients with revision operations.

For patients having hypospadias surgery the improved oxygen levels at the graft site promotes angiogenesis (new blood vessels to grow) and reduces inflammation, which in turn enables faster healing.

We think that the most relaxed and pleasant way to give HBOT for young children is with a parent or caregiver in a transparent chamber, called a “monoplace” chamber. This chamber is filled with oxygen and then gently pressurised, so you will feel some pressure on your ears, similar to flying. You then sit for about 90 minutes receiving the treatment and during this time you can watch TV or have a nap. We do this once a day.

The adult who accompanies the patient will be receiving the same treatment as the child and we need to check that it is safe for both of you. However, it is generally a very safe procedure and the team will discuss this at your assessment.

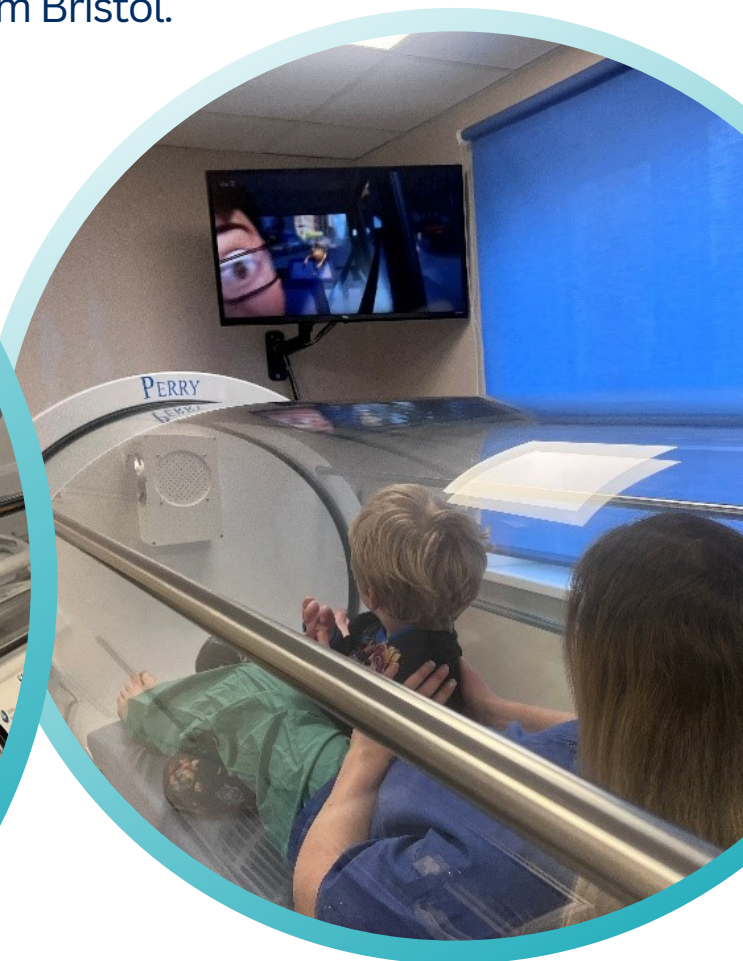


How much HBOT will I need?

As a minimum we will give **15 sessions** total of HBOT therapy delivered over a **three week** timeframe; five sessions of HBOT therapy before the revision surgery and then 10 sessions after.

HBOT therapy will require normally two to three hours a day (including assessment and diving time).

We think the first treatment immediately following the operation is important so we're keen to do this in the afternoon / evening as soon as you can get back down to Plymouth from Bristol.



We realise that this is a big time commitment and staying away from home with a young family presents all kinds of practical challenges.

Therefore, if you'd like to speak to the team and arrange a visit we'd be very keen to meet you and to show you around. This is certainly a good idea before committing to treatment and allows us to go through the process of assessment at a relaxed pace.

What is the accommodation like?

Through our partnership with Hearts Together Hospital Hotel we are able to offer accommodation about 200m from our Centre.

The accommodation includes a family room which can either be made up with two single beds and a trundle bed, or one super-king-sized bed with a trundle bed. There is a shared communal area with self-catering facilities (including microwave, oven, fridge, freezer, kettle and toaster). Free tea, coffee, biscuits and soft drinks are available as well as a complimentary continental breakfast each morning. There is also free parking and free wifi on site.



There is a small, matted area in the dining space for some toys, however, age relevant activities can be added to this if required for families. Hearts Together will also be able provide free passes to a local soft play centre.

Close to the accommodation is a large supermarket as well as a selection of fast-food options and there is a great selection of shops and restaurants in the town centre (all approx. 20-30 mins by bus or car).

Who pays for all of this?

As this is a new kind of treatment with only small clinical trials supporting its use, we have not yet started the process of applying for NHS funding. We hope to use this pilot scheme to demonstrate that the practical aspects can work in the South West before it is rolled out more widely.

DDRC Healthcare is a charity and our trustees have agreed to fund the cost of the treatments and the accommodation. The total cost of this comes to approximately £4,800 per patient treated. Of this approximately £4000 is the cost of the HBOT and £800 is the cost of the family accommodation.

If you are able to contribute to the cost, either now or in the future we would very much appreciate any contribution you can make to the charity. If you as parents, or friends or family are looking for a good cause to raise money for in the future please think of us so we can continue this work.

What is there to do in Plymouth?



There is lots to do in the local area for families, including the National Marine Aquarium. Also in this area is Plymouth's historic Barbican area and a gentle walk from here leads up to the Hoe overlooking Plymouth Sound where you can find play parks and cafes.

For those who are keen to explore the natural beauty of West Country there are lots of lovely beaches nearby and further into Cornwall & Devon.

We are also situated on the edge of Dartmoor National Park which offers picturesque views and walks.

DDRC Healthcare, 8 Research Way, Plymouth Science Park, Plymouth, PL6 8BU
01752 209999

www.ddrc.org

UK Registered Charity No. 279652 | CQC Registered