

### **How does HBOT help with diabetic neuropathy?**

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy or HBOT can help improve the healing process in those suffering from diabetic neuropathy, a common problem in diabetic patients.

Diabetic patients are in all probability aware that they may develop diabetic neuropathy, a condition causing nerve damage which affects the limbs (the feet, legs, arms and hands). Commonly blood flow is severely decreased in extremities, which leads to painful wounds and even ulcers, caused by a lack of oxygen. A half of amputations in the USA are blamed on diabetes.

### **Reestablishing blood flow**

According to Hyperbaric answers website “Hyperbaric oxygen therapy can help provide oxygen to areas of the body that are oxygen starved by dissolving it into the plasma and tissues of the affected area. Although you cannot expect HBOT to replace or reestablish blood flow in the blood vessels of body parts permanently affected by diabetic neuropathy, it can jump start the healing process in affected extremities. Hyperbaric oxygen treatments help diabetic neuropathy through the increase release of oxygen into the tissue of the body.

The increase in oxygen is important when treating neuropathy because the human body uses 20 times more oxygen to fight infection than when it does in a normal healthy body. But with diabetes, the blood flow is often drastically less, making the availability of oxygen quite hard to come by. This is another reason why HBOT can be so useful for a diabetic patient. HBOT can provide the necessary oxygen to the parts of the body that need it most without the body having to fight against itself to present it. The extra oxygen supplied by the HBOT is also helpful because it speeds up the healing process, which may take a much longer period of time if the body alone were responsible for delivering the oxygen needed.”

What about peripheral neuropathy, which may also be associated with diabetes? Read an article about the condition [here](#) or by clicking the second title under References.

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References:

[Diabetic Neuropathy \(Medical Conditions Treated by Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment\)](#).

Published online on Hyperbaric answers.

[Peripheral Neuropathy/Diabetes](#). Published online on tennessee hyperbaric center website.