Davis Hyperbaric Laboratory, Brooks AFB, TX

POST HYPERBARIC TREATMENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS PATIENTS

- 1) No physical activity for 72 hours. Rest, take it easy, and do nothing.
- 2) No alcohol intake for 72 hours. Your tolerance is decreased, and it could mask the signs and symptoms of DCS.
- 3) No flying, diving, or altitude exposure for 72 hours. This includes any aircraft, mountain pass, or chamber.
- 4) **Stay well hydrated.** Drinking 8 12 oz of water and fruit juices per hour will help.
- 5) **Delayed ear pain is possible.** This occurs because excess oxygen trapped in your middle ear is later reabsorbed, leaving a partial vacuum. Do a valsalva (pinch your nose and blow) to pop your ears before going to bed and again in the morning and in-between if necessary. Be careful that you do not over-pressurize your ears.
- 6) **You will probably be very tired tonight.** The treatment you have just been through places a significant stress on your body, and post-treatment fatigue is common. You may even notice yourself to be a bit tired and on edge the next day. Again, this is not unusual. If your original symptoms recur, however, call the doctor and check.
- 7) Stay in the local San Antonio metro area (within 1 hour drive) for no less than 24 hrs.
- 8) **If you are on flying/diving/research subject/special operations status**, you <u>MUST</u> visit your Flight Surgeons Office the next duty day! Have him/her contact us for a summary of care.

If you experience a recurrence of your symptom(s), call at once:

Ask for the HYPERBARIC DOCTOR ON CALL

Duty hrs:	Com:	210-536-3281
	DSN:	240-3281
After duty hrs:	Com:	210 536-3278 (LEO-FAST)
	DSN:	240-3278

Out of the local area: Go to the nearest medical facility and present this paper. Tell them you were treated for decompression sickness and think you may have a recurrence.

You received a TREATMENT TABLE ______ (With ______ tailing treatments)

Treatment Ended: Date: ____; Time _____AM / PM

Return for Re-Check at Brooks: Date: _____; Time _____AM / PM / Not Required