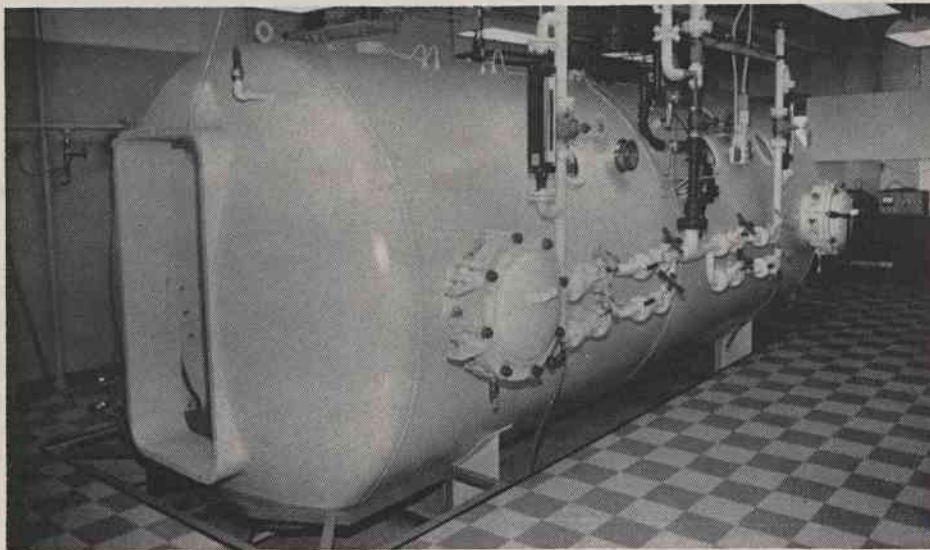


Hyperbaric Unit Organized

A unit has been organized at this Medical Center to explore the potential therapeutic benefits of oxygen inhalation at increased environmental barometric pressures equivalent to those pressures experienced when diving to a depth of 30 to 200 feet below the surface of the ocean. This approach is based on the fact that at increased atmospheric pressures oxygen molecules are packed more closely together and can therefore penetrate into certain organs and tissues more effectively than would be otherwise possible. In practice, this procedure has been described as being useful in the treatment of asphyxia from coal gas inhalation, in the management of extremities deprived of a blood supply following accidents, in the surgery of children with blue, unoxygenated blood due to congenital heart disease, in certain infections and in the treatment of coronary heart disease.

Because of the broad surgical and medical implications of this unit, a multi-disciplinary committee has been formed to actively implement the project. The acting Program Director is Dr. Ivan W. Brown, Jr., of the Department of Surgery, and the Assistant Program Director is Dr. Herbert A. Saltzman, of the Department of Medicine. Other members of the operational committee include: Drs. H. O. Sieker, J. S. Harris, Guy Odom, Ronald Stephen, Albert Heyman, Henry McIntosh and F. G. Hall. In operation the unit is supervised by Mr. Donald Aanerud, a former Navy deep sea diver and the chief engineer for the project.

The present pressure chamber illustrated in the accompanying photograph is the pilot human experimental unit. Housed, at present, in a temporary building to the rear of the Clinical Research Building, this chamber consists of two compartments totaling 22 feet in length. It is large enough to contain up to 8 persons in addition to the patient or experimental animal. Services are provided to permit effective monitoring of important chemical and physiologic functions such as blood pressure, oxygen concentration in blood, and brain electrical activity. The lessons learned from the pilot human chamber will be incorporated into the design of two larger units planned for completion by 1965. These additional chambers will be large enough to permit the performance of major surgery or of extensive diagnostic procedures.



This 22-foot long hyperbaric chamber is the pilot unit in a research-treatment project now underway in the Medical Center.

What People Are Saying

From a patient to his wife:

But one thing impresses me most so far, I have yet to meet one person on the staff who isn't absolutely the most cooperative, efficient and kindest person you could want to meet.

From a patient to a Hospital administrative officer:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the many courtesies which you extended to me and my wife while I was at Duke Hospital. . . . I have never been treated more courteously or had more efficient treatment than I had at Duke. I hope I never have the occasion to go to the hospital again, but in the event I do, I certainly would choose Duke.

From the family of a patient:

I want to let you know that my family and I appreciate so much certain members of your force.

Not even one do we know by name, but we readily recognize their smiles!

Our son's wife was delivered of a premature baby and we have been so very anxious ever since. In our fright and anxiety that night all the doctors on the 4th floor of Sims-Williams were so very lovely. So was every nurse and every employee. Not only were they wonderful to our children but to other young parents as well.

I could not let today pass without a warm thank you to each one.

MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW

11th Annual Cerebral Palsy
Football Classic

Thanksgiving Day, November 28
Duke—Maryland Freshmen Game,
2 P.M.

Preceded by Midget Game, 12 noon

Advance tickets, \$1.00

Gate tickets, \$1.50

Gate prize: Glasspar boat with
Evinrude motor and trailer:

Courtesy, London Marina

Sponsored by the Durham

Cerebral Palsy Foundation

and the Durham Junior League