

# Wound Center Patient Guide



## Directions

From Interstate 81 - Follow I-81 to Exit 6A (Rt. 40 East). Stay in right lane and follow Washington Avenue (which becomes Washington Street). Continue through town and turn right onto Mulberry Street. Turn left onto Antietam Street. Washington County Hospital is on the right and the parking garage is on the left. The Wound Center is located on the seventh floor of the hospital.

From Interstate 70 - Follow I-70 to Exit 32B (Rt 40 West). Follow Route 40 into Hagerstown and take a left onto Cleveland Avenue, then right onto Antietam Street. Washington County Hospital is on the left and the parking garage is on the right. The Wound Center is located on the seventh floor of the hospital.



WASHINGTON COUNTY  
HOSPITAL

### Wound Center

251 East Antietam Street  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
240-313-9580

Visit our web site at:  
[www.washingtoncountyhospital.com](http://www.washingtoncountyhospital.com)

13344.0206



WASHINGTON COUNTY  
HOSPITAL

## Hope Exists

Five million Americans live with chronic wounds resulting from complications related to diabetes, pressure ulcers, circulatory problems and traumatic injuries. Chronic wounds often interfere with daily life and can cause a person to lose hope. A wound that will not heal needs more than just another dressing. It needs the experience of a multidisciplinary wound care team, like the one at Washington County Hospital's Wound Center.

Our specialized care promotes the healing process. It begins when qualified medical professionals perform an initial overall assessment of our patients. All the necessary caregivers, including surgeons, specialists, consultants and therapists, are involved. A physician trained in wound care performs a thorough examination of the wound and the surrounding areas. The team then creates an individualized treatment plan using advanced techniques and therapeutic products to heal your wound. Your plan is shared with your primary care physician, who remains an active member of the wound management team.

The Wound Center team specializes in helping to heal:

- diabetic foot ulcers and leg ulcers
- bone infections
- preparation and preservation of skin grafts or flaps in compromised tissue
- crush injuries and thermal burns

## What is Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy?

Some wounds require hyperbaric oxygen therapy, a medical treatment performed using oxygen to help heal diseased tissues. The treatment happens while you lie comfortably in a specially designed pressurized chamber in which you will breathe 100% oxygen, a significant increase over the air you normally breathe. The benefit of hyperbaric oxygen therapy results from an oxygen-enriched bloodstream, not from the direct contact of oxygen with the wound.

A treatment plan is tailored to each patient and the number of treatments will be based on your individual needs. Some cases require only a few treatments, while other wound-healing situations may require as many as 20-40. Each case is unique.

In general, hyperbaric treatment is administered once a day, five days a week and last 90-120 minutes. Treatments are most effective if done consecutively. Your faithful commitment to the treatment schedule is an important part of the healing process.

## Prepare for treatment

You should stop smoking for the entire course of your treatment. Use of tobacco products inhibits the delivery of blood and oxygen to your body tissues and may slow or retard the healing process.

It is very important to give the Wound Center medical team a complete list of any prescriptions, any over-the-counter

medications you may be taking, and any herbal medications or supplements. Some medications may limit your body's response to hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

Notify your doctor if you develop a cold, sore throat, cough, fever, diarrhea or any other illness. Illness may cause a temporary delay in your treatment schedule.

A surgical gown is provided during your treatment. A storage area will be available for your clothing and personal items. We recommend that all valuable items be left at home. Please remove all jewelry before therapy.

Personal items are not permitted in the hyperbaric chamber. Removing dentures, partial plates and hearing aids is also required. You may be asked to remove your contact lenses, depending on which type you wear.

## Referral Information

Patients may be referred to our center by a physician, or they may call the center directly for an appointment. To contact the Wound Center at Washington County Hospital call **240-313-9580**. The Wound Center is open Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m and is located on the seventh floor of the hospital.

## Insurance and Payment

We participate in many commercial insurance plans, HMO's and PPO's, as well as Medicare and Medicaid.