



DEPARTMENT OF INTENSIVE CARE & HYPERBARIC MEDICINE

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Full Project Title: Hyperbaric Oxygen in Lower Limb Trauma (HOLLT)

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Introduction

HOLLT is an international multi-centred, randomised controlled trial which aims to assess the benefits of providing hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBO) during the acute stages of management of severe lower leg injuries, as an adjunct to normal trauma care. It is being conducted by an international network of trauma centres with hyperbaric treatment facilities that are suitable for treating severely injured patients. The HOLLT study coordinating centre is within the Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at Monash University, Melbourne Australia.

Study Design

The pilot study was previously undertaken by The Alfred Hyperbaric Service which is located on the same campus. Patients who have suffered an open fracture of their tibia with associated severe soft tissue injury and enrolled within forty eight hours of injury to receive either normal orthopaedic trauma care with the addition of an intensive, week long course of hyperbaric oxygen.

Enrolments commenced in Melbourne in 2007 and a range of collaborating sites have since joined the study. The study aims to enrol its target of one-hundred and twenty subjects throughout 2013 and each subject will be followed up for a minimum of two years. Although the study has started slowly, it is now progressing steadily towards completion.

