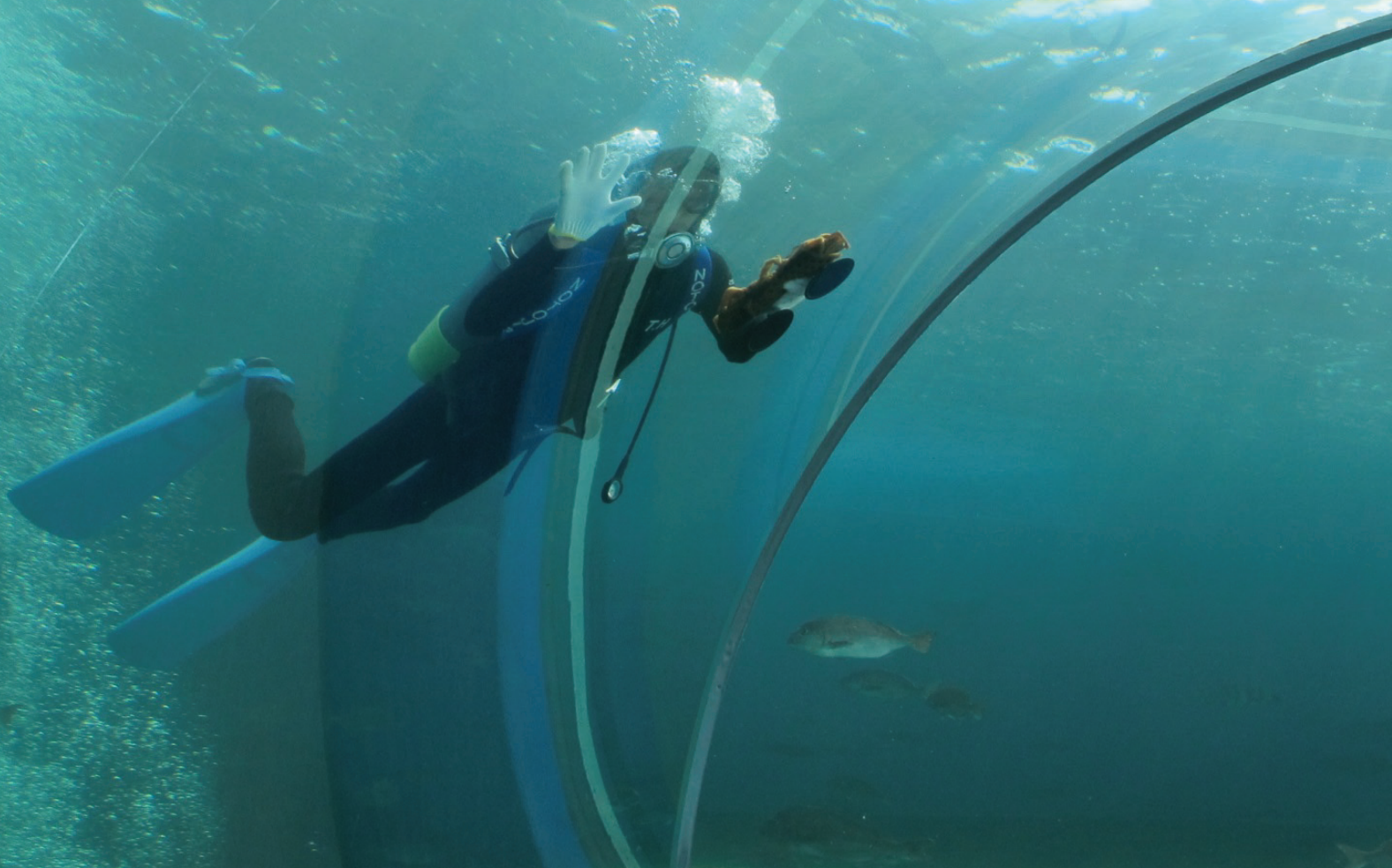
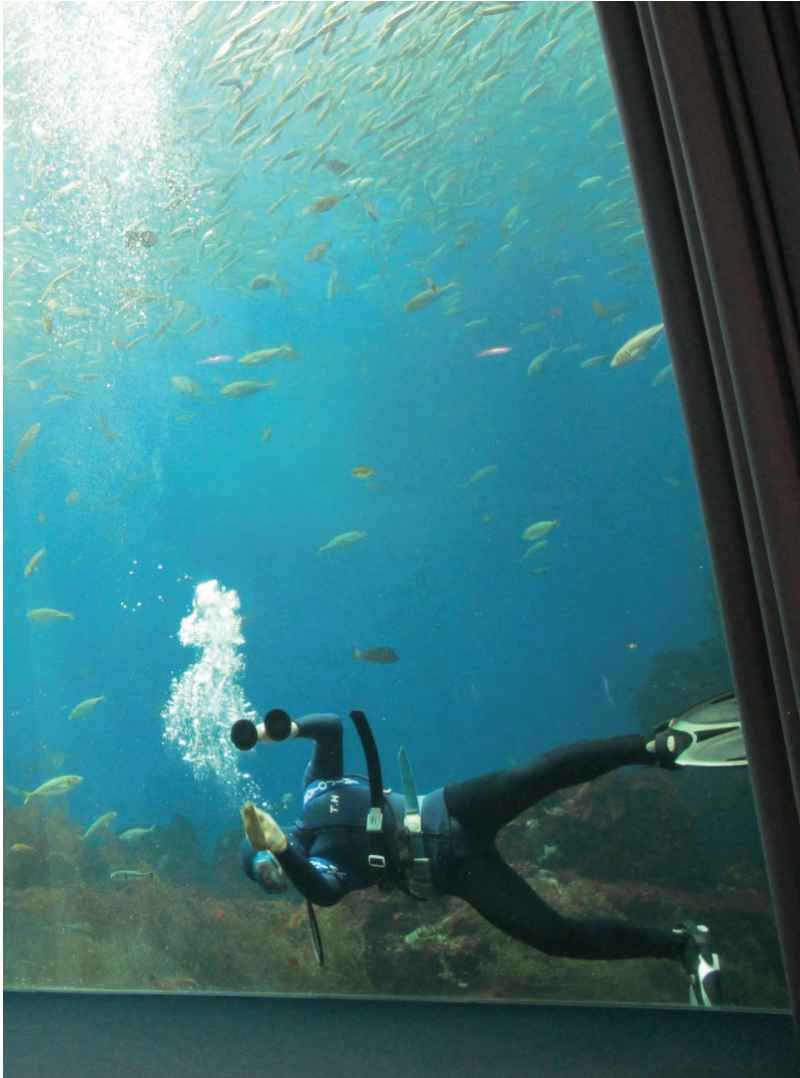


Hyperbaric oxygen (HBO) therapy in Hong Kong

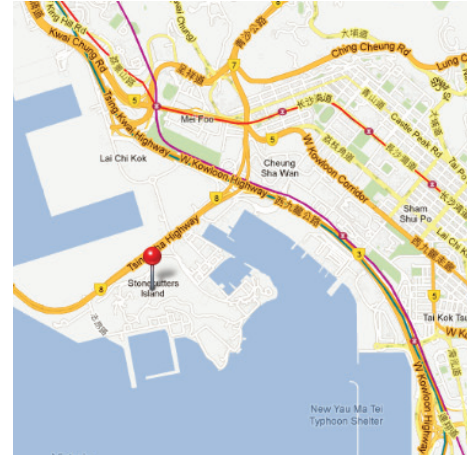


Hyperbaric oxygen(HBO) therapy in Hong Kong

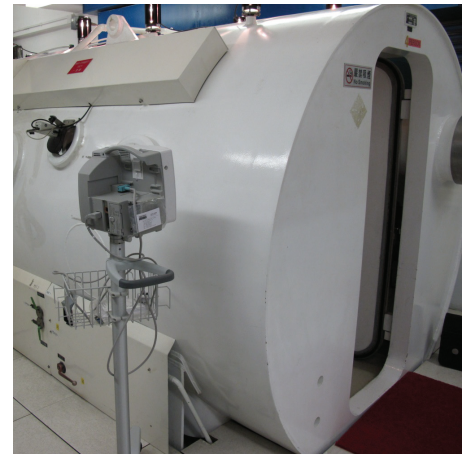


Hyperbaric oxygen(HBO) therapy in Hong Kong

Before the change of sovereignty in 1997, the recompression therapy was provided by the United Kingdom Royal Navy mostly for the treatment of diving-related conditions. The public Recompression Treatment Centre on Stonecutters Island was opened in April, 1994. It was manufactured by the Haux of Germany in 1994. It consisted of two multi-placed chambers linked by an antechamber.



STONECUTTERS ISLAND



HBO CHAMBER



CCTV MONITORING SYSTEM

The facility was operated by the Hong Kong Fire Services Department under the medical supervision of the Occupational Medicine Division of the Department of Health. There were various conditions for which HBO could be useful. These were listed in table 1.

Acute	Decompression illness
	Arterial gas embolism
	Carbon monoxide poisoning
	Soft tissue necrotising infections
	Clostridial myonecrosis
Chronic	Radiation tissue necrosis
	Refractory osteomyelitis
	Selected non-healing wounds

TABLE 1. INDICATIONS FOR HBO THERAPY



FIREMEN WERE OPERATING THE CHAMBER



RESUSCITATION TROLLEY

Decompression illness and arterial gas embolism would require emergency recompression and patients must be sent to the chamber by the quickest available means.

Patients with carbon monoxide poisoning would benefit from HBO therapy by a variety of mechanisms. HBO would be effective in preventing the delayed neuropsychiatric sequelae that often developed 10 to 21 days after carbon monoxide poisoning.

Complications of HBO were listed in table 2.



Barotrauma : middle ear, sinus, rarely tracheobronchial tree, Gastrointestinal tract
Acute CNS oxygen toxicity : rare at less than 3 atm
Fire hazard
Respiratory : Dry cough, bronchitis, pulmonary fibrosis, pulmonary edema

TABLE 2. HBO – COMPLICATIONS/RISKS

Local experience had shown that HBO therapy was a useful adjunctive treatment. However, the remote location of the Recompression Treatment Centre at Stonecutters Island and the lack of hospital facilities would be the major concern especially when critically ill patients were in need.

The risks and cost of transport would obviously be minimized if a hospital-based hyperbaric chamber could be established in the near future. Emergency physicians would certainly at the best position to lead and coordinate the service of HBO therapy in the Hospital Authority.

Dr. Au Yeung Kwan Leong of the Accident and Emergency Department of Queen Elizabeth Hospital has prepared to take up the challenge.

Editor – Dr. Karen Chan

College Calendar Jul-Oct 2012

July	August	September	October
1 Su	1 We JCM	1 Sa	1 Mo PH
2 Mo PH	2 Th	2 Su	2 Tu PH
3 Tu	3 Fr	3 Mo	3 We JCM
4 We JCM	4 Sa BLS	4 Tu	4 Th
5 Th BLS	5 Su	5 We BLS JCM	5 Fr
6 Fr	6 Mo	6 Th	6 Sa
7 Sa	7 Tu	7 Fr	7 Su
8 Su	8 We Tox	8 Sa	8 Mo
9 Mo	9 Th	9 Su	9 Tu
10 Tu	10 Fr	10 Mo	10 We Tox
11 We Tox	11 Sa	11 Tu	11 Th
12 Th PALS	12 Su	12 We Tox	12 Fr ECG
13 Fr PALS	13 Mo	13 Th	13 Sa
14 Sa	14 Tu	14 Fr	14 Su
15 Su	15 We	15 Sa	15 Mo
16 Mo	16 Th	16 Su	16 Tu
17 Tu	17 Fr	17 Mo	17 We
18 We	18 Sa	18 Tu	18 Th
19 Th	19 Su	19 We	19 Fr
20 Fr	20 Mo	20 Th PALS	20 Sa
21 Sa	21 Tu	21 Fr PALS	21 Su
22 Su	22 We ECG	22 Sa	22 Mo
23 Mo	23 Th	23 Su	23 Tu PH
24 Tu ACLS	24 Fr	24 Mo	24 We
25 We ACLS	25 Sa	25 Tu Airway	25 Th PALS
26 Th	26 Su	26 We ACLS	26 Fr PALS
27 Fr	27 Mo ACLS	27 Th ACLS	27 Sa ACLS
28 Sa	28 Tu ACLS	28 Fr	28 Su ACLS
29 Su	29 We	29 Sa	29 Mo
30 Mo	30 Th	30 Su	30 Tu
31 Tu	31 Fr		31 We
July	August	September	October

College News

EEEM

Examination Date:
(OSCE) 21-22 Aug 2012 (Tue-Wed)
(Oral) 11-13 Sep 2012 (Tue-Thu)

Free Paper Presentation 2012

Date : 28 September 2012
Time : 14:30 – 18:00
Venue : Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, 99 Wong Chuk Hang Road,
Aberdeen, Hong Kong

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