



# Mechanism of Action for Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy in the Treatment of Children within the Autistic Spectrum Disorders

The information supporting the use hyperbaric oxygen therapy in addressing autism can be found throughout the scientific literature.

The potential mechanism of action has yet to be determined and in fact may be as different as the spectral disorders themselves.

1. **HBO** mobilizes human stem cells from human bone marrow
2. **HBO** decreases inflammation  
(neuro-inflammation and gastro-intestinal inflammation)
3. **HBO** enhances immune system function
4. **HBO** has been shown to increase the circulation of glutathione by 15%
5. **HBO** decreases oxidative stress through the up regulation of antioxidant enzymes.
6. **HBO** has been shown to increase availability of neurotransmitters
7. **HBO** has shown to enhance the function of the mitochondria, source of energy for the cell.
8. **HBO** often works synergistically (making them more effectively) with antibiotics in addressing infections
9. Serial **HBO** has been shown to increase the formation of new blood vessels into hypoperfused tissue.  
(often the brains of children within the spectrum of disorders have areas of significant hypoperfusion)

An initial series of 40 treatments is recommended once to twice a day 5 -6 days a week. The children usually readily adapt to this environment because it makes them feel better. Each child has his or her own individual oxygen hood, children do not usually have any problems with this type of clear “space like helmet”. A selection of DVD's are provided to help the time pass.

Document provided by:

**Centre Hyperbare de L'Île .**

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