

Neurologist Exposes the Benefits of HBOT for TBI and PTSD in front of US Congress

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Tucson neurologist to testify before Congress about brain injury

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TUCSON, AZ (KOLD) - For years we've been telling you about the merits of hyperbaric oxygen treatment, its documented impact on Traumatic Brain Injury and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Though today, we're going to tell you about the local doctor who makes it all possible. She's been chosen to take part in a national study. Not only that, her upcoming testimony before Congress could shape the future of this innovative therapy for generations to come.

Meet Dr. Carol Henricks. For five years, the Tucson neurologist has been offering hyperbaric oxygen treatment to patients suffering from variety of conditions like near drowning, post stroke and Multiple Sclerosis. But it's a very specific patient population Dr. Henricks seems to help most at her Northstar Neurology offices at 7596 North La Cholla.

"The kind of traumatic brain injury that our veterans have suffered overseas...in Iraq and Afghanistan," she says.

That's why Dr. Henricks is being asked to testify before the United States House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. To discuss the nature of these injuries; how she treats them; and her many success stories along the way.

"By the end of my 40 treatments, I had never felt better in my life."

That's Private Jeremy Mandrell who deployed to Iraq in 2005. There, he drove a gun tank that took a lot of enemy fire. Explosion...after explosion...after explosion. Within a year, he developed some serious symptoms. He couldn't sleep, had severe headaches and eventually got so disoriented he couldn't even hold a conversation. Turns out, all those explosions had a cumulative effect on Mandrell's brain.

"I have tried everything," the 23 year old told KOLD News 13 from Colorado Springs. "What the Army could throw at me, what the VA could throw at me and nothing has ever worked. It's a simple concept: you lay in a tube and breathe oxygen...and it works, it works."

That's why Dr. Henricks is helping any veteran with traumatic brain injury—free of charge. She does this to learn more herself. And to help others, who don't have the means to help themselves.

"We could never afford this stuff, a lot of times," Mandrell said. "When Dr. Henricks opens up her (hyperbaric oxygen) tubes, Dr. Harch (fellow neurologist from New Orleans) and everybody else—it's great. I don't know what they could be doing any better."