

CUHMA vASM 2026 - Learning Objectives

Hyperbaric Oxygen Brain Injury Treatment (HOBIT) Research Trial

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Review the design, methodology, and emerging findings of the HOBIT trial.
- Evaluate the potential impact of HOBIT results on clinical decision-making for patients with moderate-to-severe TBI.
- Identify operational considerations when integrating trial-informed HBOT protocols into practice.

Tools and Strategies to Ensure Health and Safety in Divers

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Identify major risk factors contributing to diver injury, morbidity, and fatalities.
- Apply evidence-based strategies to mitigate diving risks in clinical and operational environments.
- Integrate updated knowledge of diving hazards, equipment safety, and diver monitoring into safety practices.

Original Research

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Critically appraise the scientific methodological quality and clinical relevance of each research presentation.
- Discuss implications of new findings for hyperbaric or diving clinical practice.
- Identify possibilities for future practice changes, research questions, and opportunities for collaboration prompted by the presented work.

HBO and Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO)

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe indications and physiological rationale for combining HBOT with ECMO in critically ill patients.
- Identify safety, monitoring, and logistical considerations when providing HBOT to ECMO patients.
- Apply case-based lessons from recent HBO-ECMO treatments to local protocols.

Updates on HBO Standards and Compliance Issues in HBO Units

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Interpret current standards, accreditation requirements, and regulatory expectations for HBOT facilities.
- Recognize common compliance deficiencies affecting safety and operational reliability.
- Enumerate strategies to improve safety culture, documentation, and regulatory adherence in participants' own units.

Epidemiology and Medical Management of Perianal Fistula

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe the epidemiology, pathophysiology, and classification of perianal fistulas.
- Summarize evidence supporting HBOT as part of multimodal treatment for complex or refractory perianal fistulas.
- Apply appropriate referral criteria and management pathways for HBOT in fistulizing disease.

Revision of PO₂ Limits for Diving

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Explain the scientific and operational rationale for recent updates to oxygen exposure limits in diving operations.
- Identify physiologic mechanisms and risk assessment principles informing the revised PO₂ guidelines.
- Apply updated PO₂ limits to recreational, technical, and occupational diving scenarios.

Medical Considerations for Freediving

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe physiologic adaptations and risks associated with breath-hold diving.
- Identify common medical complications—including hypoxic blackout, barotrauma, and pressure-related injuries—in freedivers.
- Enumerate evidence-informed screening and safety strategies to support safe freediving practices.

Open Forum – Discussion of Membership-Submitted Topics

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Discuss and evaluate member-identified clinical, operational, and safety challenges in hyperbaric and undersea medicine.
- Compare peer solutions, operational strategies, and quality-improvement approaches.
- Identify actionable next steps or collaborative opportunities to address shared issues.