

Hyperbaric Legislation: Sub bill HB216

Sec. 4731.51. The practice of podiatric medicine and surgery consists of the medical, mechanical, and surgical treatment of ailments of the foot, the muscles and tendons of the leg governing the functions of the foot; and superficial lesions of the hand other than those associated with trauma. Podiatrists are permitted the use of such preparations, medicines, and drugs as may be necessary for the treatment of such ailments. ~~The~~ A podiatrist may treat the local manifestations of systemic diseases as they appear in the hand and foot, but the patient shall be concurrently referred to a doctor of medicine or a doctor of osteopathic medicine and surgery for the treatment of the systemic disease itself.

General anesthetics may be used under this section only in colleges of podiatric medicine and surgery approved by the state medical board pursuant to section 4731.53 of the Revised Code and in hospitals approved by the joint commission ~~on the accreditation of hospitals,~~ or the American osteopathic association. ~~The~~

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy may be ordered by a podiatrist to treat ailments within the scope of practice of podiatry as set forth in this section and, in accordance with section 4731.511 of the Revised Code, the podiatrist may supervise hyperbaric oxygen therapy for the treatment of such ailments.

The use of x-ray or radium for therapeutic purposes is not permitted.

Sec. 4731.511. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Hyperbaric oxygen therapy" means the administration of pure oxygen in a pressurized room or chamber.

(2) "Physician" means an individual authorized under this chapter to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery.

(B) A podiatrist may supervise hyperbaric oxygen therapy if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The podiatrist has consulted with a physician who has been authorized to perform hyperbaric oxygen therapy by the facility in which the hyperbaric oxygen room or chamber is located.

(2) The podiatrist orders hyperbaric oxygen therapy only for treatment within the scope of practice of podiatry as described in section 4731.51 of the Revised Code.

(3) The podiatrist is certified in advanced cardiovascular life support by a certifying organization recognized by the state medical board.

(4) The podiatrist has completed, at a minimum, a forty-hour introductory course in hyperbaric medicine recognized by the American board of foot and ankle surgery or by the undersea and hyperbaric medical society.

(5) The podiatrist is board-certified or board-qualified by the American board of foot and ankle surgery or the American board of podiatric medicine.

On the request of the state medical board, the podiatrist shall submit to the board evidence demonstrating that the podiatrist is certified in advanced cardiovascular life support and has completed a course in hyperbaric medicine as described in this section.

(C) When hyperbaric oxygen therapy is supervised under this section, both of the following apply:

(1) The podiatrist must be immediately available throughout the performance of the therapy.

(2) A physician who has been authorized to perform hyperbaric oxygen therapy by the facility in which the hyperbaric room or chamber is located must be readily available for consultation throughout the performance of the therapy to furnish assistance and direction in the event a complication occurs that is outside the scope of practice of podiatry as described in section 4731.51 of the Revised Code.