



March 9, 2017

Jimelle Rumberg, Ph.D., CAE
Executive Director, OH Foot and Ankle Medical Association
1960 Bethel Rd, Ste. 140
Columbus, OH 43220

Dear Dr. Rumberg:

You have requested that the Medical Board produce a “white paper” concerning the ability of a podiatric physician to supervise hyperbaric oxygen therapy. Please accept this letter, which references the applicable Ohio Revised Code sections, in lieu of a white paper.

Effective April 6, 2017, House Bill 216 of the 131st Ohio General Assembly authorizes podiatrists to supervise hyperbaric oxygen therapy for conditions within the podiatric scope of practice when certain conditions are met, as follows:

First, the definition of the practice of podiatric medicine and surgery found at Section 4731.51, Ohio Revised Code, is amended to add the following language:

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy may be ordered by a podiatrist to treat ailments within the scope of practice of podiatry as set forth in the 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.

Second, Section 4731.511(B), Ohio Revised Code, sets out the following criteria which must be met for a podiatrist to supervise hyperbaric oxygen therapy:

- (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.

Third, Section 4731.511(C), Ohio Revised Code, sets out the following requirements for the podiatrist who is supervising hyperbaric oxygen therapy:

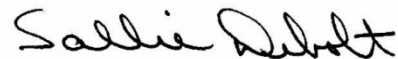
- (1) The podiatrist must be immediately available throughout the performance of the therapy.
-

(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 4371.51 of the Revised Code.

As of the date of this letter amended Section 4731.51 and new Section 4731.511 are not yet published in LaWriter, the on-line version of the Ohio Revised Code. However, the sections are effective on April 6, 2017.

Please contact me at the telephone number above should you have questions about the information contained in this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sallie Debolt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and a distinct 'D'.

Sallie Debolt
Senior Counsel