

# Proclamation



**Whereas**, May is “Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Awareness Month”, a proven treatment option for wounds, infections or injuries that have not responded to standard treatment; and,

**Whereas**, more than 8 million people in the United States are living with chronic wounds. Lack of awareness of advanced wound care and benefits of hyperbaric oxygen therapy leaves many people without access to life changing care; and,

**Whereas**, Hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) is mostly used for the treatment of diabetic ulcers of lower extremities, radiation injury to bone or tissue, compromised grafts and flaps, and chronic refractory osteomyelitis ; and,

**Whereas**, many patients who undergo radiation therapy discover a hidden complication that may not come to light until years after they complete treatment. Radiation therapy can restrict oxygen in the body’s healthy tissue, which is needed for the tissue to thrive. If there is a break in the integrity of the tissue, infection and non-healing wounds can occur. About 15 percent of patients who undergo radiation therapy may develop late radiation tissue injury; and,

**Whereas**, Hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) has emerged as a treatment option for patients who suffer from late radiation tissue injury. HBOT helps patients by stimulating growth of new blood vessels following radiation-induced damage; and,

**Whereas**, over 37 million people in the United States have diabetes and 25 percent of them will develop a foot ulcer, possibly leading to amputation. Hyperbaric oxygen therapy provides necessary oxygenation which is critical in preventing amputation; and,

**Whereas**, Hyperbaric Awareness USA and the Hyperbaric Aware campaign aim to spread local, state, and national awareness of available treatment options for people suffering from radiation injury, chronic wounds, and diabetes, thus, prolonging lives, avoiding amputations, reducing the cost of care, and improving quality of life.

**Now therefore**, I, Joseph P. Ganim, Mayor of the City of Bridgeport, Connecticut, support efforts to educate and raise public awareness of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy within our community by proclaiming the month of May 2024, as

## “Hyperbaric Awareness Month”

In the Great City of Bridgeport, Connecticut

In witness, whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Bridgeport to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> Day of May A.D. 2024.



Joseph P. Ganim  
Mayor