

# Oxygen instead of Medication



Daily there are 22 to 30 Veterans dying by suicide and many believe these are completely voluntary acts. Many say suicide is a cowardly act and I say these people do not know the facts behind these suicides.

Currently the protocol used by the VA for treating Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is the use of psychotropic drugs. Since a TBI is a physical injury of the brain, why would they use psychotropic drugs for the treatment of that injury? Treating a TBI with psychotropic drugs makes as much sense as treating a broken leg with the same drugs, both are physical injuries and neither is going to have positive results from the drugs.

The use of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) has been used extensively in Israel to treat TBIs with the Israel Defense Forces. By treating a Veteran with a TBI with hyperbaric oxygen therapy we can heal the brain damage and regain a fully functioning individual to their family and society.

At a cost of \$6,000 for the 40 “dives” the Veteran's TBI could be physically repaired, instead we spend tens of thousands of dollars on psychotropic drugs. These drugs are causing physical damage to the liver, kidneys, thyroid and the hearts of these individuals. The required blood tests for these drugs test to see if the drugs have gone therapeutic, they are also testing to see what damage is being done to these vital organs. The VA's protocol is shortening the lifespan and quality of life for the Veterans and the VA does not support HBOT.

Some of the symptoms for PTS and TBI are:

Physical issues such as headaches, feeling dizzy, being tired, trouble sleeping, vision problems, hypersensitivity to noise and light, frontal lobe damage leading to impulse control issues.

Cognitive (Mental) Memory problems, trouble staying focused, poor judgment and acting without thinking (impulse control), being slowed down, trouble putting thoughts into words (word searching).

Emotional (Feelings) Depression, anger outbursts and quick to anger, anxiety (fear, worry, or feeling nervous), personality changes, hyper-vigilance.

The VA protocol for PTS and TBI treatment is the use of multiple psychotropic drugs that have synergistic effects (greater effect) and many have “Black Box” warnings about causing suicide ideation.

Suicidal ideation warnings (Black Box) concern thoughts about or an unusual preoccupation with suicide. The range of suicidal ideation varies greatly from fleeting thoughts, to extensive thoughts, to detailed planning.

A psychotropic drug is a chemical substance that crosses the blood–brain barrier and acts primarily upon the central nervous system where it affects brain function, resulting in alterations in perception, mood, severely impairs free-will, consciousness, cognition, and behavior. These include anti-psychotics, antidepressants, anti-anxiety drugs and hypnotics. The “harm” caused by these psychiatric drugs can include violent behavior, uncontrolled aggression and suicide.

To reiterate, the VA protocol for PTS and TBI treatment is the use of multiple psychotropic drugs, frequently the Veteran is prescribed 5 to as many as 25 drugs per day. These drugs have synergistic effects and many have “Black Box” warnings about causing suicide ideation.

Do you still believe that a Veteran suicide is “voluntary”?

Why won't you join us in making a difference and create sustainable funding to support vetted Veteran charities that will treat the Veterans with Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy at no cost to the Veteran?

For more information, call 602-561-7805 or [teamveteran.org](http://teamveteran.org)