WHAT IS OXIDATION?

Most biochemical reactions in the body are balanced through redox mechanisms. Redox means reduction/oxidation. Anytime a substance is reduced (chemically changed), something else must be oxidized (chemically changed the other way) for the reactions to stay in balance. Oxidation, as an example, is the process which causes rust (slow oxidation) or fire (rapid oxidation). In the body, some types of oxidation are thought to be harmful by producing free radicals. We also suggest people take vitamin E anti-oxidant to help reduce free radical formation. We know there can be no life if oxidation does not occur. Oxidation is the process through which the body converts sugar into energy. The body also uses oxidation as its first line of defense against bacteria, virus, yeast and parasites. Even breathing oxygen is an oxidative process. Without oxygen for more than a few seconds, serious consequences follow. Without oxidation we die very quickly. When we use the principals of oxidation to bring about improvements in the body, it is called Oxidative Therapy.

WHAT DRUGS ARE USED IN OXIDATIVE THERAPY?

A number of substances are known to cause oxidation in the body but the most important of these is hydrogen peroxide. Hydrogen peroxide, although a natural substance made in the body, is still considered a drug when used in Oxidative Therapy. Hydrogen peroxide, when exposed to blood or other body fluids containing the enzyme catalase, is chemically split into oxygen and water. Remember how hydrogen peroxide foams when you put it on a wound? The foam is oxygen being produced by the action of catalase on the hydrogen peroxide. A small amount of hydrogen peroxide can supply large amounts of oxygen to the tissue.
IS THIS A NEW FORM OF THERAPY?

Injections of hydrogen peroxide are not new. Its intravenous use was first reported by Dr. T.H. Oliver in the British medical journal (Lancet) in 1920. Patients with influenzal pneumonia were treated with hydrogen peroxide infusions with very good results. The use of hydrogen peroxide injections, to generate oxygen in the body, has been studied at many major medical research centers throughout the world. Research reports have come from Baylor, Yale, Harvard, UCLA, Boston, England, Japan, Germany, Sweden, Russia, Canada, Nova Scotia and other countries. Today, between 50 and 100 scientific articles are published each month about the chemical and biological effects of hydrogen peroxide. More recently the “Therapeutic Use of Intravenous Hydrogen Peroxide” was reported by Dr. C.H. Farr at an International Medical Symposium in Czechoslovakia, attended by representatives from 26 different countries. Oxidative Therapy, introduced by Dr. Farr, is the rediscovery of an old treatment first reported almost 70 years ago.

HOW DOES IT WORK IN THE BODY?

There are many theories about the different functions of hydrogen peroxide in the body and a great deal of scientific material supports almost every one. Hydrogen peroxide is produced in the body in different amounts for different purposes. It is part of a system which helps you use the oxygen you breathe. It is part of a system which helps your body regulate all living cell membranes. It is a hormonal regulator, necessary for your body to produce several hormonal substances such as estrogen, progesterone and thyroid. It is important in the regulation of blood sugar and the production of energy in all cells. It helps regulate certain chemicals necessary to operate the brain and nervous system. It is used in the defense system of the body to kill bacteria, virus, yeast and parasites and has been found to be important in regulating the immune system. Scientists are discovering the function of hydrogen peroxide in the body is far more complex and important than previously realized.

WHAT CONDITIONS ARE BEING TREATED WITH THIS THERAPY?

Oxidative therapy, using hydrogen peroxide, has been reported in scientific literature and by physicians in the treatment of the following conditions or diseases with varying degrees of success.

Heart and Blood Vessel Diseases
1. Peripheral Vascular Disease (poor circulation)
2. Cerebral Vascular Disease (stroke and memory)
3. Cardiovascular Disease (heart disease)
4. Coronary Spasm (angina)
5. Cardioconversion (heart stopped)
6. Heart Arrhythmias (irregular heart beat)
7. Gangrene of Fingers and Toes
8. Reynards Syndrome
9. Temporal Arteritis
10. Vascular and Cluster Headaches
Physician from around the world constantly share knowledge and experience and the list of uses for Oxidative Therapy is growing every day. Since hydrogen peroxide is a natural substance produced and used in body chemistry, there will be discoveries about its importance in biochemistry for years to come.

**WOULD I BENEFIT FROM OXIDATIVE THERAPY?**

Only a physician trained in the administration of Oxidative Therapy can answer that question for you. You may or may not find your condition or illness in the list above. If treatment of your condition or illness has been unsatisfactory in the past, you may wish to learn more about Oxidative Therapy.
HOW IS THIS THERAPY ADMINISTERED?

Weak, very pure hydrogen peroxide (0.0375% or an even lower concentration) is added to a sugar or salt water solution. The same as used for intravenous feeding in hospitals. This is injected in doses from 50 to 500 ml, into a large vein, usually in the arm, slowly over a period of 1 to 3 hours depending upon the amount given and the condition of the patient. It is painless except for the small needle stick. Treatments are usually given about once a week in chronic illness but can be given daily in patients with acute illness such as pneumonia or flu. Physicians may recommend 1 to 20 treatments, depending on the condition of the patient and the illness being treated. The patient is rechecked usually in 1 to 3 months to evaluate the benefits and determine if additional treatments may be necessary. Some patients, especially with chronic illness, may need to take follow up treatments, in series of 5 to 10, or may need maintaining indefinitely on a regular monthly schedule. As many as 50 treatments have been administered to several patients without complications. An experienced physician must decide how many treatments are necessary in each individual case.

WHAT ABOUT THE SAFETY OR SIDE EFFECTS OF THIS THERAPY?

Over the past 50 years hundreds of patients have received hydrogen peroxide without reported serious side effects. Early use of hydrogen peroxide was noted to occasionally cause irritation of the vein being infused. This troublesome side effect was eliminated after the concentration and rate of infusion were adjusted downward.

IS THIS THERAPY EXPENSIVE?

Expense is a relative term. Persons with chronic diseases pay thousands of dollars annually to physicians, pharmacies and hospitals for drugs and therapies which do little more than maintain them at their current level of sickness. If Oxidative Therapy could save you 1/2 to 3/4 of your current expense, would you consider it expensive? The expense of any therapy varies more with the type of illness than type of therapy. Persons with serious complicated illnesses require more costly tests to diagnose and monitor than do less ill patients. Much of today’s medical cost is in the testing rather than the treatment. Don’t be afraid to ask your physician, in advance, about cost.

DOES INSURANCE PAY FOR OXIDATIVE THERAPY?

This usually depends on your insurance company and type of policy. Generally, however, insurance companies will not pay for medical service or care which they may classify as ‘not usual and customary’. ‘Usual and customary’ simply means that most physicians provide the same service or treatment for the same disease. Obviously, the average physician is not using Oxidative Therapy and most are not even familiar with the therapy. A qualified physician can more easily answer this question on an individual basis. Any licensed physician may administer this therapy.