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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HILTON HEAD CLINIC TAPS OXYGEN'S HEALING POWERS

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy increases cellular oxygen concentration to promote healing.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. – Hyperbaric Therapy of the Lowcountry opened for business Monday, May 5 on Hilton Head Island. Headed by Dr. Pete Stephens, M.D., the new clinic treats patients suffering from various injuries and autoimmune diseases with hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT).

HBOT is a medical treatment that delivers 100% oxygen to a person in a pressurized chamber. The process increases cellular oxygen concentration up to 20 times normal levels to accelerate healing. Extra oxygen is readily transported by all body fluids to the benefit of all body tissues and organs. Increased tissue oxygenation produces long-term therapeutic benefits including:

- Decreased swelling and inflammation
- Increased ability for the body to fight infection
- Promotes growth of new blood vessels and tissue
- Helps to metabolize toxins
- Fosters collagen production

During Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment, ambient pressure inside the computerized, state-of-the-art, Lucite Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber is gradually increased by the addition of 100% oxygen. Atmospheric pressure within the Hyperbaric Oxygen chamber can be increased up to 3 atmospheres (ATA), which is comparable to a deep-sea dive of 66 feet below sea level. Increased atmospheric pressure levels cause oxygen molecules to become soluble, allowing more usable oxygen to cross over all cell membranes within the body.

Patients lie comfortably within the chamber, watch a movie, read a book, listen to music, or use the treatment time to just relax. During the compression and decompression phases of the

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treatment (dive), pressure in the ears must be equalized by swallowing or yawning (similar to being in an airplane). A typical treatment lasts 90-minutes and is physician supervised.

Hyperbaric Therapy of the Lowcountry uses Environmental Tectonics Corporation's Biomedical, fully computerized SMOOTH·RIDE™ monoplace hyperbaric chambers for patient comfort and safety. Research conducted by the U.S. Air Force on curvilinear profiles shows that incorporating SMOOTH·RIDE™ technology reduces the incidence of barotrauma by approximately 67%. The chamber's computer assisted individualized treatment programs offer the patient comfort and help decrease stresses during chamber compression and decompression.

HBOT is utilized widely around the world to treat a multitude of ailments and injuries including:

- Non-healing wounds
- Third degree burns
- Radiation tissue damage
- Osteomyelitis
- Crush injury, compartment syndrome and acute traumatic ischemia
- Necrotizing soft tissue infections
- Skin grafts and flaps
- Intracranial abscess
- Carbon monoxide poisoning and smoke inhalation
- Decompression sickness

Additionally, HBOT has been successful in treating “off label” applications such as autism and rheumatoid arthritis. Jennifer McDonald travels to Hilton Head from Summerville, S.C. up to five times per week so that her three-year-old autistic son, Alexander, can receive HBOT therapy. “We tried applied behavioral analysis (ABA), speech and occupational therapy and those produced no results,” said McDonald. “Right after (HBOT) treatments, he was calmer and he would hold my hand. Then words started to come. It is definitely something that all parents of autistic children should look into.”

“There are about 20 facilities like ours in the country treating these off label things, but very few are using hyperbarics on rheumatoid arthritis. The ones we’ve treated have done phenomenally well,” said Stephens.

About Hyperbaric Therapy of the Lowcountry

Hyperbaric Therapy of the Lowcountry is located at 94 Main Street, Suite E, Hilton Head Island, SC 29926. Phone: (843) 681-3300. Web: www.hyperbarictherapylowcountry.com.

Pete Stephens, M.D., Clinic Manager

Dr. Pete Stephens is a 1962 graduate of the Medical College of Virginia and trained at US Army hospitals and Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. After completing 35 years in practice as an emergency room physician, Dr. Stephens retired from the hospital setting and has been researching and studying hyperbaric medicine since 2004.

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Todd Johnson, M.D., Medical Director, Certified Hyperbaric Physician

Dr. Todd Johnson is a 1996 graduate of Ohio State College of Medicine, Columbus Ohio and completed his internship and family practice residency at Palmetto Richland Memorial Hospital (The University of South Carolina), Columbia, SC in 1999. He is Board Certified by the American Academy of Family Practice as well as the South Carolina and Federal Drug Enforcement Agency. He is also presently the Regional Medical Director for Secure Horizons Clinical Care Center, Ovations division of United Health Group of Greensboro, NC.

Lisa Lowry, M.D., Assistant Medical Director

Dr. Lisa Lowry is a 1995 graduate of Duke University School of Medicine and completed her family practice residency while serving in the U.S. Army — Department of Family Practice, Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg, NC in 2000. She is Diplomate of the American Board of Family Practice and retains medical licensure in both North and South Carolina. She is currently a family practice physician with the St. Joseph's/Candler Medical Group in Bluffton, South Carolina.

For questions concerning the information contained in this release, please contact Dr. Pete Stephens, M.D, at (843) 681-3300 (office), (843) 298-3980 (mobile), stephensetc@aol.com (email), www.hyperbarictherapylowcountry.com (web).

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