

Awake from Coma: Oren's Story

By Dr. Lane Scott, Ph.D.

"The Oxygen reached the limbic system of his brain, and during the 3rd treatment, Oren awoke from his coma!"

Oren's family has signed The Awakening Petition because of the impact that Hyperbaric Neurooxygenation has made for Oren and others like him everywhere. Please consider the gift of your signature and review the

Awakening Petition at:

<http://>

www.PetitionOnline.com/angel777/petition.html

On April 7th, 2002, 11-year old Oren Zemach drowned in the Jacuzzi swimming pool in his home garden after being sucked in by the powerful pump that pulled him to the bottom of the pool. He was under the 104 F° degree water (40°C) for more than 20 minutes. The pump caused a huge hematoma to his left posterior chest side. Six people were needed to pull him out of the water. According to the rescue team he was found unconscious, without a pulse and not breathing. His GCS was 3. He underwent resuscitation treatment, during which he developed ventricular tachycardia, which was treated with electric cardioversion (200 J).

On admission to the Emergency Department he was mechanically ventilated with life support through an intratracheal tube. The pupils were wide and non-reactive. There were no spontaneous body movements, but his breathing was present. Because of reduced ventilation of the left lung, a plural drain was inserted.

A CT brain scan showed a visible fluid-air level in the sinuses. He was then transferred to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. His temperature was at 102.2°F and the fever did not react to medications. On neurological follow-up he was found to be non-reactive and in a coma.

For the next 4 weeks Oren was in a coma with a very grim prognosis for recovery.

On the day of his transfer to the Rehabilitation Department, Oren's pupils were round and reactive to light, but his eyes did not follow. Spontaneous breathing was supplemented by an oxygen mask.

Dr. Nahum Gal, MD, took responsibility for Oren's care. Dr. Gal consulted with Dr. Richard Neubauer and Dr. Philip James, and on May 7th (one month after the accident), Dr. Gal began treating Oren with Hyperbaric Neurooxygenation in a multiplace chamber, using an oxygen hood and a low pressure of 1.1 ATA for 60 minutes. This was not easy to do since Oren was very agitated from the trauma to his central nervous system and continued in a state of psychomotor restlessness. However, one parent, a doctor and a nurse were present in the hyperbaric chamber. During the treatment, Oren's eyes began to focus and although he tossed and turned back and forth, some eye contact was established.

Oren was treated once a day at 1.1 ATA for 60 minutes. The oxygen reached the limbic system of his brain, and during the 3rd treatment Oren awoke from his coma!

Oren continues to receive Hyperbaric Neurooxygenation

treatments 5 times a week. Dr. Gal says, "It is amazing to see Oren's progress. In no time we established eye contact, then he began to sit up, recognize family and friends, regained his memory, began walking with assistance, eating on his own, and started to form words - not verbally, but with signs. On the recent GMFM test which was administered after the 22nd hyperbaric treatment, Oren scored almost 90%. And this from a boy that was dead for more than 20 minutes!"

Oren lives in Israel. His family says he is a little sad because he cannot presently run and play as he could before the accident - but we are all happy he is alive.

Dr. Nahum Gal will continue Hyperbaric Neurooxygenation with Oren until they reach 40 treatments. They will stop to rest for a few weeks, and take more brain scans and tests, and afterwards continue with another 40 Hyperbaric treatments for Oren.

Dr. Nahum Gal uses Hyperbaric Neurooxygenation for treatment of the pediatric brain in various neurological disorders such as cerebral palsy, autism, hypoxia and other conditions.

The benefit of oxygen begins with the first deep breath of it. Oxygen is to the body and brain what rain is to the desert—it creates an oasis in life.