

# **Mandibular Osteoradionecrosis**

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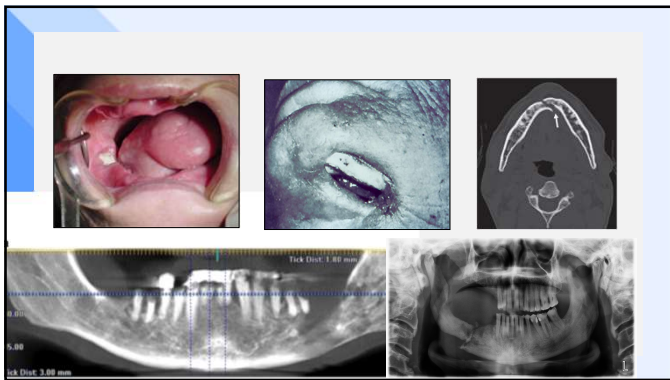
**Dick Clarke, CHT**

## Mandibular Osteoradionecrosis Review & Update

Primary Training in Hyperbaric Medicine  
Columbia, South Carolina

“Late radiation tissue injury is a sign of success”

Sanders M, Dische S.  
2002 ESTRO Meeting, Prague



Radiation tissue injury; “non-target” tissues

**Acute effects:** DNA damage, cell death-rapidly proliferating cells  
self-limiting +/- RT pause

**Late effects:** chronic oxidative stress  
dose-dependent > complex wounds/organ loss

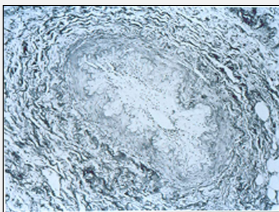
“consequential vs. generic”

(3 - 7,400 cGy range)	No. Cases
< 5,000 cGy	5
5 - 6,000 cGy	24
6 - 7,000 cGy	33
> 7,000 cGy	42

90% traumatically-induced

Dose of RT (Gy)	Patients (percentage)
<40	8 (8.8)
40.1 - 45.0	5 (5.5)
45.1 - 50.0	4 (4.4)
50.1 - 55.0	5 (5.5)
55.1 - 60.0	15 (16.5)
>60	54 (59.3)

**Osteoradionecrosis: A New Concept of Its Pathophysiology**  
Robert E. Marx, MD



Marx RE, J Oral Maxillofac Surg 1983;41:283-288

**A New Concept in the Treatment of Osteoradionecrosis**  
Robert E. Marx, MD

**Marx ORN Protocol**

- Stage I. HBO as primary therapy
- Stage II. Indication for surgery post-HBO = sequestrectomy
- Stage III. Mandible resection/fixation
- Stage III-R. Mandible reconstruction

Marx RE, J Oral Maxillofac Surg 1983;41:351-357

**CLASSIFICATION METHODS AND STAGING SYSTEMS FOR OSTEOADIONECROSIS OF THE MANDIBLE**

Investigator	Classification Method	Staging System
Marx RE	A new concept in the treatment of osteoradionecrosis. J Oral Maxillofac Surg 1983;41:351-7	Stage I: 30 days of HBO used to attain mucosa recovery Stage II: Grade 1 non-exposed who need functional alveolar sequestrectomy Stage III: Grade II non-exposed who need bone resection needed Stage III-R: An additional 30 days of HBO given to patients who needed a bone graft
Coffin F	The incidence and management of osteoradionecrosis of the jaws following head and neck radiotherapy. Br J Radiol 1991;64:85-7	Minor: Small sequestra that may separate spontaneously over several weeks Major: Bone necrosis extending to the entire thickness of the jaw, pathological fracture sometimes present
Norton ME	Osteoradionecrosis: a study of the incidence in the North West of England. Br J Oral Maxillofac Surg 1986;24:323-31	Minor: Bone exposure with ulceration and a history of spontaneously resolving bony sequestra Moderate: Small sequestra limited in nature and resolving spontaneously Major: Large area of exposed bone and sequestra; bone fracture and fistula
Epslein BJ, et al	Osteoradionecrosis: clinical experience and a proposal for classification. J Oral Maxillofac Surg 1987;45:106-10	Stage I: Resolved/healed, with or without pathological fracture Stage II: Chronic/persistent non-aggressive, with or without pathological fracture Stage III: Active/progressive, with or without pathological fracture
Uken M, et al	Osteoradionecrosis reconstruction using microvascular composite free flaps. Arch Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg 1995;117(7):733-744	Based upon anatomic, functional and aesthetic considerations ORN as a function of location within mandible, symphysis, body, angle and condyle
Glazman C, Gray WB	Radiation necrosis of the mandible: a retrospective analysis of the incidence and risk factors. Radiat Oncol 1991;36:94-100	Stage 1: Bone exposure without signs of infection and persisting for at least 1 month Stage 2: Bone exposure with infection or sequestra and for at least 1 month Stage 3: Bone necrosis treated with mandibular resection with a satisfactory result Stage 4: Bone necrosis treated with mandibular resection with a satisfactory result Stage 5: Death due to ORN
Chayman L	Clinical outcomes in oral and maxillofacial surgery: part two. Management of dental extractions in	Type I: Preexisting with loose type or intact gingiva or mucosa

**Irradiated jaws: a protocol without hyperbaric oxygen therapy**  
J Oral Maxillofac Surg 1991;49:275-82

Investigator	Classification Method	Staging System
Wang R, et al	Conservative management of osteoradionecrosis. Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol Oral Radiol Endod 1997;84:19-22	Type II: Bone exposure with secondary contamination; an aggressive form Stage 1: Bone exposure resulting from tumor resection where tumor death results in a loss of soft tissue coverage Stage 2: Bone exposure as a consequence of tumor recurrence Stage 3: Bone exposure resultant from oral surgical (osteal lavage operations) or other dental interventions including dental treatment Stage 4: Bone exposure de novo without apparent cause aside from radiation exposure
Stov G, Boyen M	Mandibular osteoradionecrosis: clinical behavior and diagnostic aspects. Clin Otolaryngol Allied Sci 2000;25:378-84	Stage 0: Mucosa defect only Stage I: Radiological evidence of necrotic bone with intact mucosa Stage II: Positive histological findings with detached bone intraorally Stage III: Exposure of the necrotic bone, skin fistula and infection
Schwartz HC, Kagan M	Osteoradionecrosis of the mandible: scientific basis for clinical staging. Am J Clin Oncol 2002;25:168-72	Stage I: Superficial involvement of the mandible only Stage II: Localized involvement of the mandible, with or without soft tissue resection Stage III: Diffuse involvement of the mandible, with or without soft tissue resection
Natori K, et al	Management of mandibular osteoradionecrosis corresponding to the severity of osteoradionecrosis and the method of radiotherapy. Head Neck 2010;32:61-6	Stage I: ORN confined to alveolar bone Stage II: ORN limited to the alveolar bone and/or above the level of the inferior alveolar canal Stage III: ORN under the lower part of the inferior alveolar canal, with fistula or bone fracture
Tsai CJ, et al	Osteoradionecrosis and radiation due to the mandible in patients with oropharyngeal cancer. N J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys 2011;88:435-20	Stage I: Minimal bone exposure with conservative management only Stage II: Minor debridement required Stage III: HBO needed Stage IV: Major surgery needed

**Management of mandibular osteoradionecrosis corresponding to the severity of osteoradionecrosis and the method of radiotherapy.**  
Marx RE, J Oral Maxillofac Surg 1983;41:351-7

**Osteoradionecrosis - a review of current concepts in defining the extent of the disease and a new classification proposed.**  
Br J Oral Maxillofac Surg 2014;52:382-5

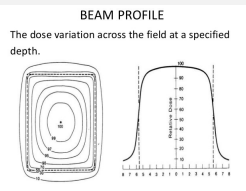
**Retrospective analysis of osteoradionecrosis of the mandible: proposing a recent staging classification and staging systems.**  
Int J Oral Maxillofac Surg 2015;44:1547-1557

**Soft tissue defect (S)**

Investigator	Classification Method	Staging System
Karagouglu DS, et al	Management of mandibular osteoradionecrosis corresponding to the severity of osteoradionecrosis and the method of radiotherapy. Mar Oral Maxillofac Surg 1983;41:351-7	Stage 0: Bone exposure more than 1 month, no distinct changes on imaging Stage 1: Bone exposure with no distinct changes on imaging, with or without symptoms Stage 2: Bone exposure with distinct changes on imaging, with no involvement of the lower maxillary border Stage 3: Necrotic bone involving the lower border of the mandible
Lyon A, et al	Osteoradionecrosis - a review of current concepts in defining the extent of the disease and a new classification proposed. Br J Oral Maxillofac Surg 2014;52:382-5	Stage 1: <1.5 cm length of bone affected, asymptomatic Stage 2: >1.5 cm length of bone affected, involving fracture or the inferior dental border Stage 3: >1.5 cm length of bone affected, symptomatic, with no other features Stage 4: >1.5 cm length of bone affected, bone fracture and involving inferior dental border or fistula
Ray/salt issue He T, et al	Retrospective analysis of osteoradionecrosis of the mandible: proposing a recent staging classification and staging systems. Int J Oral Maxillofac Surg 2015;44:1547-1557	<b>Classification</b> R0: No distinct changes on post-radiotherapy imaging on radiography, but patients harboring loose type typical Ulcer-related symptoms (pain, exposure of teeth) R1: Maximal diameter of the lesion on radiography <2.0 cm R2: Maximal diameter of the lesion on radiography >2.0 cm R3: Pathological fracture <b>SO: Mucosal and skin integrity</b> S1: Intact mucosal and external skin fistula S2: Intact mucosal and external skin defect, through and through defect Stage 0: Conservative therapy Stage 1: Segmental resection and primary closure Stage 2: Marginal resection without reconstruction, or segmental resection combined with osteoradionecrosis flap reconstruction or additional soft tissue flap should be used in patients with an osteonecrotic fistula Stage III: Segmental resection combined with osteoradionecrosis flap reconstruction, or additional soft tissue flap should be used in patients with an osteonecrotic fistula

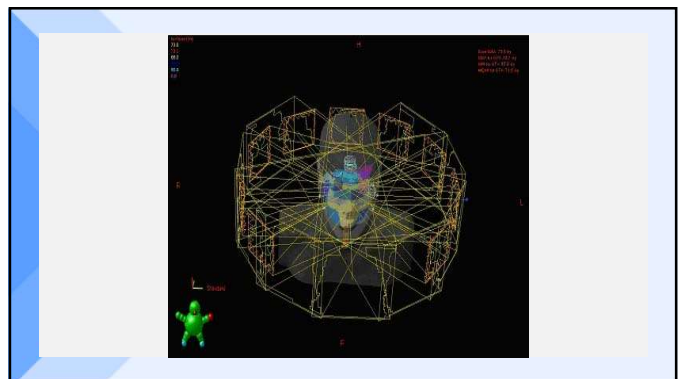
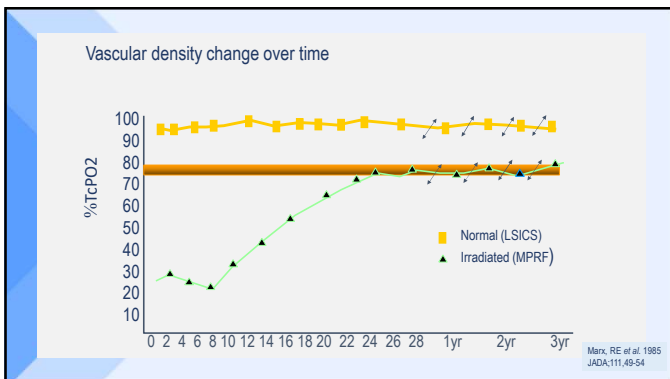
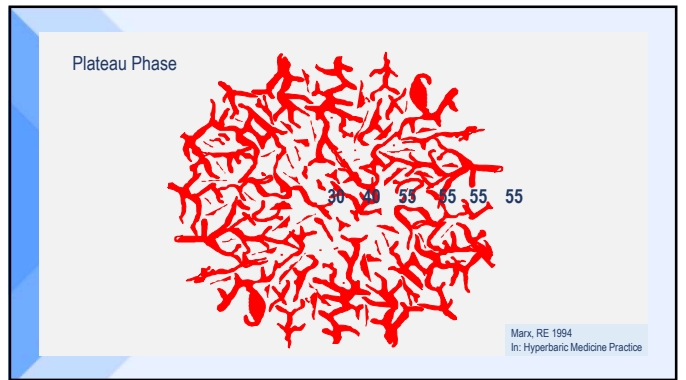
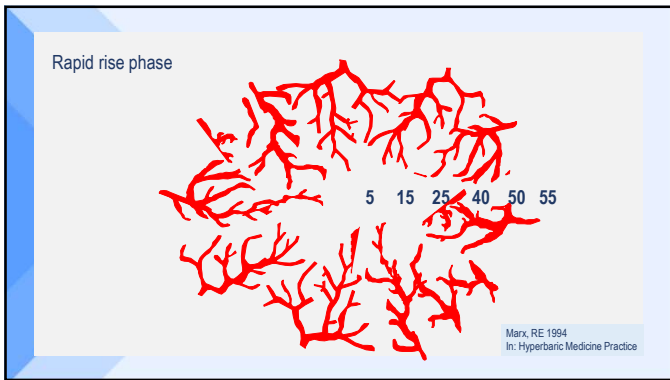
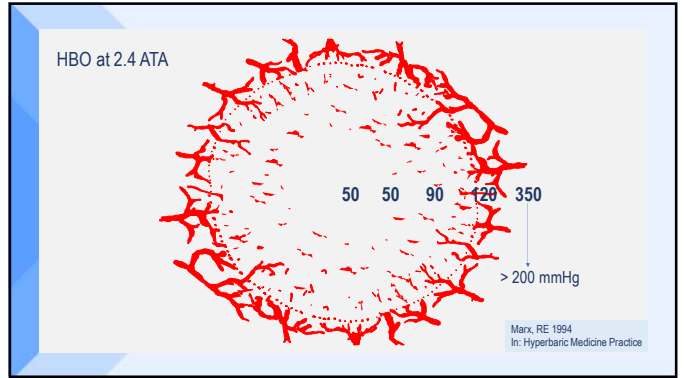
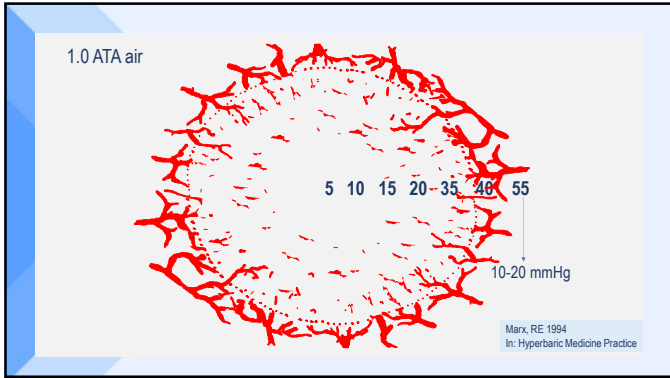
**Radiation damaged tissue as a unique wound**

**BEAM PROFILE**  
The dose variation across the field at a specified depth.



**Regulation of wound-healing  $\alpha$ 2(I)-G2J angiogenesis—Effect of oxygen gradients and inspired oxygen concentration**  
David R. Kraybill, MD, PhD, et al.

**Knighton DR, et al. Surgery 1981;90(2)**

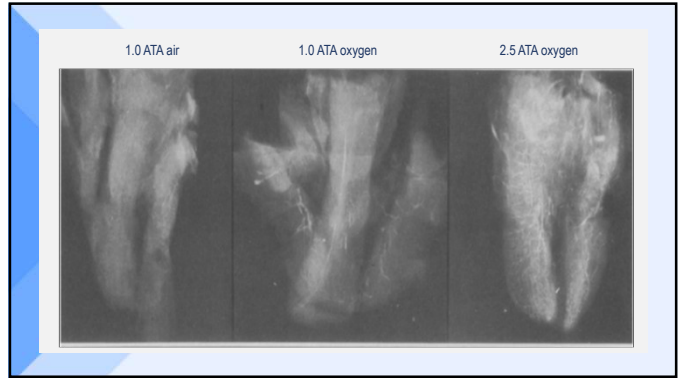


### Micro-angiogenic vascular density

	Normobaric Air (N=7)	Normobaric Oxygen (N=14)	Hyperbaric Oxygen (N=14)
Maximum VDE	18	19	99
Minimum VDE	6	6	78
Mean VDE	13	13	93

Normobaric air vs. Normobaric O<sub>2</sub>:  $p < 0.89$   
 Normobaric O<sub>2</sub> vs. Hyperbaric O<sub>2</sub>:  $p < 0.01$   
 Normobaric air vs. Hyperbaric O<sub>2</sub>:  $p < 0.01$

Marx RE, et al. 1990  
 Am J Surgery; 160



**Effect of hyperbaric oxygen treatment on oxygen tension and vascular capacity in irradiated skin and mucosa**

Svalestad J, et al. Int J Oral Maxillo Surg 2014;43

20 pts hx H/N RT 50-70 Gy,  
 ORN or ORN prophylaxis

Randomly allocated HBO vs. no-HBO

Skin & mucosal tissue perfusion measurements  
 Transcutaneous oximetry & Doppler flowmetry

pre-HBO & 6 months post-HBO  
 controls 6 months apart

### tcpO<sub>2</sub> measurements pre/post HBO vs. controls

		HBO group			Controls	
		Baseline	3 months	6 months	Baseline	6 months
Forehead	Basal	39.8 +/-15.75	39.87 +/-11.25	41.3 +/-10.5	41.3 +/-12	43.6 +/-10.5
	O <sub>2</sub>	140.3 +/-71.3	135.8 +/-37.5	137.3 +/-38.3	127.5 +/-55.5	113.3 +/-39.8
Cheek	Basal	29.3 +/-13.5	42.8 +/-15.7 *	42.8 +/-7.5 *	31.5 +/-9	29.3 +/-11.3
	O <sub>2</sub>	105.0 +/-43.5	150.85 +/-63.8 *	148.5 +/-48.8 *	105.0 +/-37.5	95.3 +/-34.5
Intercostal	Basal	54.0 +/-13.5	54.8 +/-15	59.3 +/-9.75	64.5 +/-18	62.3 +/-14.3
	O <sub>2</sub>	148.2 +/-52.5	156.8 +/-52.5	156.8 +/-43.5	116.3 +/-33	145.5 +/-45.0

\* P < 0.05 compared to baseline

**Effect of hyperbaric oxygen treatment on irradiated oral mucosa: microvessel density**

Svalestad J, et al. Int J Oral Maxillo Surg 2015;44

Same 20 pts hx H/N

Buccal oral mucosa tissue samples

pre-HBO & 6 months post-HBO  
 controls 6 months apart

### Vascularization & cell proliferation


	HBO Group			Controls		
	Baseline	6 months	p	Baseline	6 months	p
<b>Blood vessels</b>						
<b>Sub-epithelial</b>						
MVD	45.4 +/- 13.9	98.0 +/- 15.9	0.002	45.6 +/- 15.7	49.3 +/- 10.5	NS
MVA	1.5 +/- 0.6	4.4 +/- 1.9	0.003	1.5 +/- 0.6	1.6 +/- 0.5	NS
<b>Deeper connective tissue</b>						
MVD	30.4 +/- 10.1	45.1 +/- 16.4	0.01	28.1 +/- 9.6	34.4 +/- 7.8	NS
MVA	2.5 +/- 1.3	3.7 +/- 1.3	0.041	2.2 +/- 0.9	2.7 +/- 1.4	NS
<b>Lymph vessels</b>						
<b>Sub-epithelial</b>						
MVD	18.3 +/- 8.1	36.1 +/- 12.6	0.002	19.4 +/- 6.2	16.9 +/- 8.8	NS
MVA	1.3 +/- 0.7	2.7 +/- 1.8	0.019	1.2 +/- 0.6	1.5 +/- 0.7	NS

**Marx ORN protocol**

Marx Stage I: Localized/early disease  
30 HBO treatments

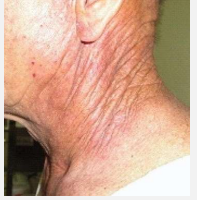
Stage I responder

- decreased amount of exposed bone
- resorption or spontaneous sequestration
- softening of exposed bone!



**PENTOCLO**  
Pentoxifylline - Tocopherol - Clodronate

**PENTO**  
Pentoxifylline - Tocopherol



Delanian S, et al. Int J Rad Oncol Biol Phys 2011

**Management of osteonecrosis of the jaws with pentoxifylline-tocopherol: a systematic review of the literature and meta-analysis**

Kokolythas A, et al. Oral & Maxillofac Surg 2019; 48

Zhang Z, et al. Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Path Oral Radio 2020;129

**Changing trends and the role of medical management on the outcome of patients treated for osteonecrosis of the mandible: experience from a regional head and neck unit**

D'Souza J, et al. B J Oral Maxillo Surg 2014;52

Site	Before 2006			Since 2006		
	Deceased (n=15)	Deceased (n=15)	Total (n=30)	Deceased (n=15)	Deceased (n=15)	Total (n=30)
ORN grade	1	2	3	1	2	3
Site	1	2	3	1	2	3
ORN extent of conservative management	1	2	3	1	2	3
Prognosis	1	2	3	1	2	3
After free flap surgery	1	2	3	1	2	3
ORN extent after free flap surgery	1	2	3	1	2	3
Site	1	2	3	1	2	3
Prognosis	1	2	3	1	2	3
ORN extent of death (n=10/33)	1	2	3	1	2	3
Site	1	2	3	1	2	3
Prognosis	1	2	3	1	2	3
ORN extent of death after free flap surgery	1	2	3	1	2	3
Site	1	2	3	1	2	3
Prognosis	1	2	3	1	2	3

**Partie III - les bandeaux fibres protéinés dans le traitement des ostéonécroses maxillo-faciales**

Partie III: Free proteinized flaps as a treatment for maxillofacial osteonecrosis

Bettoni J, et al. Br J Oral Maxilla Surg 2019;57(6)

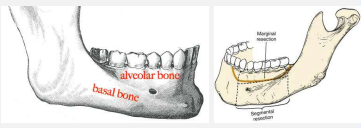


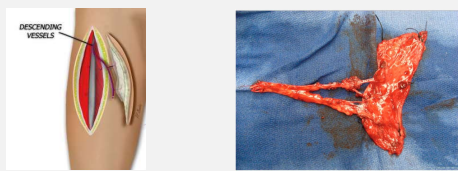
**Mandibular minor osteonecrosis of the ALT: factors free flap to arrest osteonecrosis of the mandible?**

Haffey T, et al. Am J Otolaryngol 2019;40

**Notani Stages**

- ORN confined to alveolar bone
- ORN limited to alveolar bone and/or above level of inferior alveolar canal
- ORN under lower part of inferior alveolar canal, with fistula or bone fx.





**DESCENDING VESSELS**

First description of this flap type for ORN

8 pts with clinical & radiological evidence of ORN

6/8 had undergone debridement & HBO  
- persistent sx's

Low donor site morbidity - ease of harvest

### Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy

**Standard procedure:** Pressures often vary between 2.0 & 2.5 ATA for 60-120 minutes once or twice daily for 30-60 sessions

**Contraindications:** Tumor recurrence; history of HBO complications

**Complications:** Tumor recurrence (theoretical, not substantiated by evidence); visual disturbance; barotrauma, oxygen toxicity

**Special points:** Evidence for HBO treatment & prevention of ORN mixed. Smaller uncontrolled studies have shown recovery with HBO alone or combined with surgery, however, few randomized controlled trials exist. The first showed ORN prevention for dental procedures. Subsequent RCTs have not supported HBO treatment or prevention efficacy. Cochrane Review suggested moderate-quality evidence for increased likelihood to achieve mucosal coverage & prevent post-op breakdown.

**Cost-effectiveness:** Expensive (often more expensive than surgery given number of visits required and cost of equipment/staffing).

**Meleca JB, et al. Curr Treat Options in Oncol 2021;22**

### Fasciocutaneous Flaps for Refractory Intermediate Stage Osteoradionecrosis of the Mandible - Is It Time for a Shift in Management?

**Marx pioneered HBO, no RCTs have replicated his results**  
*"Appears little benefit to addition of HBO for advanced stages"*

**Concept of RT-induced fibro-atrophic theory**  
Use of PENTO/PENTOCLO priming - better data required



**Gigliotti J, et al. J Oral Maxillofac Surg 2021;79**

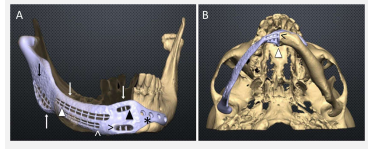
### Safety of baseline reconstruction of the mandible with a CAD/CAM designed titanium denture: The mandible study

18 pts over 5 yrs

Primary outcomes at 1 yr. achieved in 14/18 (78%)

- absence of infection
- decrease/cessation of pain
- stability/increase in mouth opening
- resumption of oral feeding
- absence of fracture/displacement/screw loosening

MRONJ - 10 ORN - 2 SCC - 2 Other - 4



**Bedogni A, et al. J Oral Oncology 2021;112**

### Patient-ask fibro as a treatment option for osteoradionecrosis: A literature review

**Harris P, et al. J Stomatol Oral Maxillo Surg 2021**

### Marx Stage II: Stage I "non-responder"

Local surgical debridement or resection

10 HBO treatments post-operatively

**Marx Stage III/III-R:**

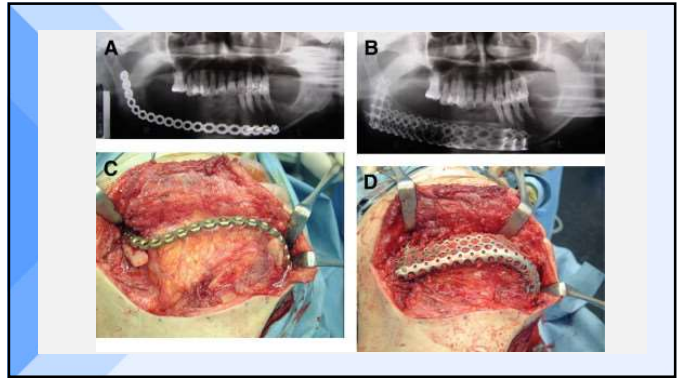
- Extensive mucosal loss & more necrotic bone
- Soft tissue fistula; pathologic fracture; bone resorption; Stage II non-responder

Following initial 30 treatments:

- Partial jaw resection; fixation; primary closure of any fistulae
- Resection of RT damaged soft tissue & skin flap repair
- Ten additional treatments

10-12 weeks after resection > formal reconstruction

- Titanium fixation plate; titanium/Dacron tray-filled cancellous bone chips
- +/- ten additional treatments



Prospective study; complications within irradiated soft tissue > 6,400 cGy

Wound Infections	N	Minor	Major	Total	
Non-HBO	80	6 (7.5%)	13 (16%)	19 (24%)	P = 0.001
HBO	80	3 (3.5%)	2 (2.5%)	5 (6%)	
Wound Dehiscence	N	Minor	Major	Total	
Non-HBO	80	12 (15%)	26 (33%)	38 (48%)	P = 0.001
HBO	80	6 (7.5%)	3 (3.5%)	9 (11%)	
Delayed Healing	N				
Non-HBO	80	44 (55%)			P = 0.005
HBO	80	9 (11%)			

Marx, RE 1994  
In: Hyperbaric Medicine Practice

Journal of Clinical Oncology | ORIGINAL REPORT | 211-217

**Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for Radiation-Induced Osteonecrosis of the Jaw: A Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Double-Blind Trial From the ORN96 Study Group**

**Annane D, et al. J Clin Oncol 2004;22(24)**

**Study design**

- 134 consecutive ORN pts assessed
- 12 centers; 1997-2001
- 68 randomized & analyzed
- 31 HBO - 37 sham
- Study stopped at 2<sup>nd</sup> interim analysis
- HBO 19% healed
- Sham 32% healed
- "Need for surgery = HBO failure"

Challenges Remain: Optimal Use of Hyperbaric Medicine and the Head and Neck Cancer Patient

**Clarke R, UHM 2019;46(4)**

**Abstract:** Hyperbaric oxygen is still needed in the management and prevention of radiation-induced osteonecrosis of the jaw (ORN).

**Introduction:** Radiation-induced osteonecrosis of the jaw (ORN) is a serious complication of head and neck cancer treatment. The use of hyperbaric oxygen (HBO) has been shown to be effective in the management and prevention of ORN.

**Conclusion:** HBO remains a valuable tool in the management and prevention of ORN, and its use should be considered in the management of these patients.

Synchronous Reconstruction of a Total Mandibulozygomatic Defect With a Single Fibula Osteostomatal Free Flap

**Tursun R, et al J Oral Maxillofac Surg 2018;76**

**Abstract:** A total mandibulozygomatic defect is a complex and challenging condition. The use of a fibula osteostomatal free flap for reconstruction is a promising approach.

**Conclusion:** The use of a fibula osteostomatal free flap for synchronous reconstruction of a total mandibulozygomatic defect is a safe and effective approach.



**Study design**

97 ORN pts randomized  
12 centers; 2008-2017

Required removal necrotic bone  
"some pts reconstructed"

Randomly assigned per ITT  
51 Surg + HBO vs. 46 Surg.

Primary outcome: ORN healing 1 yr.  
70% Surg + HBO vs. 51% Surg.

"HBO did not significantly improve healing..."  
"This effect not statistically significant"

Forner L, et al. Radiation & Oncology 2022;166

**Modern management mandibular reconstruction**

**Mandibular Reconstruction Using the Free Vascularized Fibula Graft: An Overview of Different Modifications**

George Kibbi, Stefan Schmitz, David B. Powner, Diller Vidanaraj

**INTRODUCTION**

The reconstruction of the mandible is a complex procedure because of its unique anatomy and function. The fibula is the most commonly used free flap for mandibular reconstruction because of its long length, straight shape, and ability to be harvested with a microvascular anastomosis. The fibula can be harvested with a fibular free flap, a fibular free flap with a pharyngeal flap, or a fibular free flap with a pharyngeal flap and a pharyngeal flap.

**CONCLUSION**

The fibula is a versatile free flap for mandibular reconstruction. The fibula can be harvested with a fibular free flap, a fibular free flap with a pharyngeal flap, or a fibular free flap with a pharyngeal flap and a pharyngeal flap.

Kokosis G, et al. Arch Plastic Surg 2016;43(1)

**Osteoradionecrosis: Exposing the Evidence Not the Stone**

Andrea S. Frankart, MD, Michael J. Frankart, DMD, Brian Lawrence, MD, PhD, A. King, MD, David G. Robinson, DMD, and Wafik Talib, MD, PhD

**Abstract**

Osteoradionecrosis (ORN) is a rare but potentially devastating complication of head and neck cancer treatment. The pathogenesis of ORN is multifactorial, involving hypoxia, hypoxemia, and hypoxanthine. The pathogenesis of ORN is multifactorial, involving hypoxia, hypoxemia, and hypoxanthine.

**Background**

Osteoradionecrosis (ORN) is a rare but potentially devastating complication of head and neck cancer treatment. The pathogenesis of ORN is multifactorial, involving hypoxia, hypoxemia, and hypoxanthine.

**Conclusion**

Osteoradionecrosis (ORN) is a rare but potentially devastating complication of head and neck cancer treatment. The pathogenesis of ORN is multifactorial, involving hypoxia, hypoxemia, and hypoxanthine.

Frankart AJ, et al. Int J Rad Oncol Biol Phys 2021;109(5)

**So where does HBO currently stand for ORN?**

Stage I - localized


- Four decades clinical practice experience c/w Marx protocol
- Widely, although not exclusively reimbursed
- Not supported by efficacy evidence
- PENTOCLO <100 reported cases; likewise, no efficacy evidence
- Recent limited reporting of perosteal & ALT free flaps promising

*Weight of existing evidence supports HBO \*\**

\*\* Cochrane Database of Systemic Reviews, 2016

**Stage III 'advanced'**

- Introduction of Marx Protocol (1983) mandible reconstruction
  - ~ HBO reduced failure rates; optimized healing
  - ~ essential standard of care ~ two decades
- Advent of microvascular surgery another step change
- Single-stage radical resection & myo-cutaneous free fibular flap
  - ~ now considered "gold standard" for advanced ORN since 2000
  - ~ HBO occasionally employed for post-op complications
- Marx two-stage protocol in absence of microvascular capabilities



74 pts randomized to HBO or PCN

All high risk > 6,000 cGy



135 teeth extracted in 37 PCN pts  
~ 29.9% unhealed sockets at 6 months

156 teeth extracted in 37 HBO pts  
~ 5.6% unhealed sockets at 6 months

Marx RE, et al. JADA 1985;111:49-54

**ORN prophylaxis protocol**

- Basis for 20 pre-op. procedures
  - angiogenesis plateau
- Basis for 10 post-op. procedures
  - reduces dehiscence by promoting collagen production along incision lines

144 pts randomized; HBO vs. no HBO

10 facilities

55 received HBO + surgery

66 received surgery

Mean RT dose 6,300 cGy

Blinded assessors

Trial halted at interim analysis

Data relates to conformalIMRT

Shaw, RJ, et al. Int J Rad Oncol Bjo Phys 2019

211-499

**Prevention and Management of Osteoradionecrosis in Patients With Head and Neck Cancer Treated With Radiation Therapy: ISOO-MASCC-ASCO Guideline**

Peterson DE, et al. J Clinical Oncology 2024; May 1

"The use of hyperbaric oxygen in prevention and management of ORN remains largely unjustified, with limited evidence to support its practice"

ASCO Journal of Clinical Oncology