



SerenaGroup Newsletter



June 2020

SERENAGROUP MONTHLY UPDATE

ISSUE 28

Welcome to SerenaGroup Ascension Seton Hays Advanced Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Center



On May 8, 2020, SerenaGroup and Ascension Seton Hays become partners in the Advanced Wound Care and Hyperbaric Program. “We are excited to extend our partnership with the Ascension Healthcare System”, stated Dr. Thomas Serena – CEO.

Ascension Seton Hays is in Kyle, Texas, and provides experienced medical care, including emergency, stroke and trauma care who serve residents of Hays, Caldwell and South Travis counties. SerenaGroup is proud to be included in the wide array of inpatient and outpatient services and to work alongside the providers and care teams who are committed to providing

compassionate, personalized care to help their patients live their lives to the fullest.

As we begin the operational plans, our official opening date will be July 13, 2020. Blair Flinn, Regional Director at SerenaGroup®, is a key component to having a successful launch at this center. “She has proven herself within SerenaGroup® and within the Ascension Hospital System where she managed the Via Christi Wound Care Center in Wichita, KS and is currently operating Dell Seton Wound Care Center. Blair has experience and the necessary knowledge to making this center successful and to ensure all deadlines are met”, stated Jill Schroder, Sr. VP of Operations.



Amy Spigener

June Blue Star Winner

“Amy jumped into her role on day one and has not let up. She is a team player and makes the job of the RN so much easier. She has a lot of experience and does an amazing job.”
– *Jackson Wound Care Center*

SerenaGroup Centers are encouraged to recognize those around them that go above and beyond their job description. Recognizing hard work is a priority for SerenaGroup and we sincerely thank those who continue to be compassionate in their work in healing wound care and hyperbaric medicine patients.



HYPERBARIC COURSE

Contact SerenaGroup if you would like to have an on-site course

**August 6-9, 2020
Atlanta GA**

**September 18-21, 2020
Austin, TX**

**November 6-9, 2020
West Palm Beach, FL**

Registration is Required

Please contact:

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How can you support Wound Care Research?

Here is a simple way to make that happen. When you shop on Amazon.com – always start at:

smile.amazon.com

Select [SerenaGroup Research Foundation](#) and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

While shopping for your favorite items, you will be helping develop new products and techniques through wound care research.



The SerenaGroup® Difference

I founded SerenaGroup® to bring a clinical focus to the operation of wound and hyperbaric centers. At the time, management companies offered business only solutions: Their unrealistic proforma-driven proposals lacked a clinician-led, patient-centered approach. Staffing the center with a panel of part-time, semi-retired physicians failed to advance the specialty of wound healing. If wound care is to gain acceptance and fully integrate into mainstream medicine, full-time woundologist must staff the wound center. The goal of SerenaGroup® is to advance the specialty of wound care and redirect attention to clinical excellence. We continue to adhere to our core principles:

SerenaGroup® Core Principles

C - CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

O - OUTREACH (COMMUNITY/PHYSICIANS)

R – RESEARCH AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

E – EDUCATION (ON-SITE & ONGOING)

Clinical excellence defines a SerenaGroup® Center. We measure performance through validated quality metrics benchmarked against our other advanced wound care centers. Quality measures do not include easily manipulated healing rates, but well-defined evidence-based practices such as off-loading for diabetic foot ulcers and compression for venous leg ulcers. An additional quality measure, the screening of all patients with lower extremity skin breakdown, fits into the role of wound clinic as a partner in limb preservation. Quality scores direct future educational activities. SerenaGroup® policies and procedures and algorithms do not gather dust on shelves or hide deep within the electronic medical record (EMR). We believe that achieving clinical distinction begins with adherence to the fundamental principles outlined in these documents.

To read more about **The SerenaGroup® Difference**, visit our website at www.serenagroupinc.com/news

SerenaGroup® is excited to announce the Newly Redesigned Website and Social Media sites:

www.serenagroupinc.com

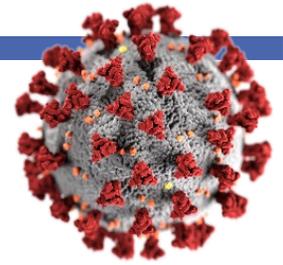
Facebook: SerenaGroup

Twitter: SerenaGroup4

LinkedIn: SerenaGroup Advanced Wound Care & Hyperbaric Medicine

Follow our sites to keep up to date on Advanced Wound Care & Hyperbaric Medicine





SerenaGroup® is excited to be part of the:

The First World-Wide Publication of the Use of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) in COVID-19 Patients

To read the full article, visit our website at www.serenagroupinc.com/news

practice

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy in preventing mechanical ventilation in COVID-19 patients: a retrospective case series

Objective: A pandemic afflicts the entire world. The highly contagious SARS-CoV-2 virus originated in Wuhan, China in late 2019 and rapidly spread across the entire globe. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) has infected more than two million people worldwide, causing over 160,000 deaths. Patients with COVID-19 disease present with a wide array of symptoms, ranging from mild flu-like complaints to life threatening pulmonary and cardiac complications. Older people and patients with underlying disease have an increased risk of developing severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) requiring mechanical ventilation. Once intubated, mortality increases exponentially. A number of pharmacologic regimens, including hydroxychloroquine-azithromycin, antiviral therapy (eg, remdesivir), and anti-IL-6 agents (e.g., tocilizumab), have been highlighted by investigators over the course of the pandemic, based on the therapy's potential to interrupt the viral life-cycle of SARS-CoV-2 or preventing cytokine storm. At present, there have been no conclusive series of reproducible randomised clinical trials demonstrating the efficacy of any one drug or therapy for COVID-19.

Cases: COVID-19 positive patients (n=5) at a single institution received hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) between 13 and 20 April 2020. All the patients had tachypnoea and low oxygen saturation despite receiving high FIO₂. HBOT was added to prevent the need for mechanical ventilation. A standard dive profile of 2.0ATA for 90 minutes was employed. Patients received between one and six treatments in one of two dedicated monoplace hyperbaric chambers.

Results: All the patients recovered without the need for mechanical ventilation. Following HBOT, oxygen saturation increased, tachypnoea resolved and inflammatory markers fell. At the time of writing, three of the five patients have been discharged from the hospital and two remain in stable condition.

Conclusion: This small sample of patients exhibited dramatic improvement with HBOT. Most importantly, HBOT potentially prevented the need for mechanical ventilation. Larger studies are likely to define the role of HBOT in the treatment of this novel disease.

Declaration of interest: The authors have no conflict of interest to declare

COVID-19 • HBOT • oxygen saturation • SARS • SARS-CoV-2 • ventilation

Congrats to Amber Wood, RN, BSN, @ Oconee Advanced Wound Care and Hyperbaric Center with Prisma Health!

SerenaGroup® is proud to announce that Amber Wood, who is a Registered Nurse at the Oconee Advanced Wound Care and Hyperbaric Center Clinic, has graduated from the University of South Carolina - Upstate with her BSN Degree. She started taking classes in January 2019 and with hard work she graduated in May 2020 with her degree. She is excited that she was able to achieve this goal and has gained knowledge from her education that will help her make a powerful impact to help those around her. *Congrats!*





Quality Metrics: What Are They and Why Do We Collect Them?

Matthew (Matt) Schweyer, CPCO™, CHT-A, CHWS

Moving forward, the SerenaGroup is focused on fostering an environment where the evidence predicates successful outcomes and produces productive plans of care. SerenaGroup's goal for 2020 is to be the first Wound Care Leader to deliver quality care metrics through our Advanced Wound Care & Hyperbaric Medicine Centers based on our CORE metrics. SerenaGroup has reviewed published quality dashboards within the Wound Care Community, and the questions continue to come up were 1) are the right widgets being measured and 2) is the report collection accurate?"

As CQO for SerenaGroup, my answer would be YES to "are the right widgets being measured", however, my answer is NO to "is the report collection accurate". Why? The main reason is that there are multiple Electronic Medical Record's (EMR) that are measuring different things. The Centers are able to extract the data; however, the data is not always the same metric. Another shortcoming of using different EMR's, is how to benchmark and measure the within SerenaGroup. Myself and our Sr. V.P. of Operations, Jill Schroder, collaborated and created the SERENAGROUP CORE QUALITY METRIC DASHBOARD. With much research, the difficult task was how to assure/ensure we were weighing and measuring the same widgets regardless of the EMR utilized within the center.

The solution allows all SerenaGroup data that is collected, tabulated and benchmarked in the through proper education and continuous internal audits.

The SerenaGroup Quality Metric Dashboard allows for SerenaGroup to focus on multiple areas such as operational outcomes; new patient goals, follow-up visits, show rates, patients seen, and total number of wounds healed. The dashboard also focuses on clinical outcomes: off-loaded diabetic foot ulcers (DFU), compressed

venous leg ulcers (VLU), performed vascular assessment, nutritional assessments as well as percentage of certain modifiers are utilized. All the metrics are considered **GOLD Standard of Care** in the wound care world. Unfortunately, through our research, no center or company are currently measuring the metrics successfully.

SerenaGroup is excited to report that we have published the first rendition of the CORE Quality Metric Dashboard! There are 3 statistics amongst all others stand out immediately. 1) new patient visits show rate is at 76%, 2) patients with follow-up visits had a show rate of 91%, and 3) 60% of patients receiving HBOT made their appointments. All of this occurred during a National Crisis with COVID-19. *Why was this able to occur?* Two main reasons:

- SerenaGroup's committed to the hospitals who viewed wound care as an essential service line for the multi-compromised patients.
- SerenaGroup Centers ensures a safe environment to the patient during COVID-19 & willingness to continue the plan of care and the care these patients received by our clinicians.

During this national pandemic,  SerenaGroup is proud of our outcomes that we have produced. Our centers have treated and healed multiple comorbid patients and kept them out of the hospital emergency rooms and inpatient settings.

To learn more about SerenaGroup's quality measures, reach out to me at mschweyer@serenagroups.com and I will be happy to review the data. SerenaGroup is a partnered wound care company that strives to deliver the best possible care to our hospital partners, providers and staff and ultimately to the patients. This is the SerenaGroup Way!



SerenaGroup

Wound Care Challenges Course

Summer 2020 - TBA
Kyle TX

July 31 – August 1, 2020
Omaha NE

Registration is Required

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