## Monthly Safety Notice

April 2019

National Baromedical Services, Inc.

### **Weekly Chamber Inspections**

### **Background**

In the Sechrist Chamber User's Manual, there are recommendations for weekly performance verifications. These recommendations are there to ensure proper operation of the chamber. We therefore recommend compliance with them.

### The Issue

Depending on the model chamber you have, certain features may or may not be available to you so we have created two different forms to use.

The older generation 3200 and E model chambers are fitted with flow meters placed on the side and foot end of the chamber. Flow is adjusted by turning a globe valve located below the flow meter near the floor. Flow should range between 80 and 400 liters per minute. When the chamber has been compressed to 15psi, use the globe valve to verify that the flow meter remains operationally accurate through its entire range. H models do not have viewable flow meters so no verification procedure exists.

All Sechrist chamber models are equipped with a red emergency vent button. This button works whenever the chamber is pressurized and the master switch valve is in the emergency vent position.

The newer generation Sechrist H model chamber is also equipped with an emergency shut-off and automatic vent system. You activate this system by lifting the safety cover and flipping the toggle valve upward. This results in emergency depressurization of the chamber at about the same rate as continually pressing down on the emergency red button. However, upon activation of the toggle valve, the chamber emergently vents with the finger removed.

The safety lock pin device on all chamber models should be verified as functional at least weekly.

The attached forms advise how to conduct these weekly performance verifications. You can also refer to your user manual.

# Bottom Line We have previously recommended monthly verification of these systems. However, in order to the follow the manufacturer's recommendations, we recommend weekly checks. Attachments

# HYPERBARIC MEDICINE SERVICE WEEKLY HYPERBARIC PERFORMANCE VERIFICATION

Purpose: To assure proper operation of the chamber by checking the following systems on a weekly basis per manufacturer recommendation. Form to be used with Sechrist H model chamber only.

Chamber Serial Number:
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- 1. Emergency Vent: Set the rate to 5psi/minute. Set the vent flow to the maximum setting. Pressurize the chamber to 3ATA. Turn the Master Valve to Emergency Vent position. Press and hold down the Emergency Vent Button to rapidly decompress. Track the time it takes until the safety door lock pin disengages. Record date, seconds and operator.
- 2. Emergency Shut-Off and Automatic Vent: Set the rate to 5psi/minute. Set the vent flow to the maximum setting. Pressurize the chamber to 3ATA. Turn the Master Valve to Emergency Vent position. Move the Emergency Shut-off toggle valve to the up position to rapidly decompress. Track the time it takes until the safety door lock pin disengages. Record date, seconds and operator.
- **3. Safety Lock Pin Device:** With the chamber turned on it should pressurize to an idle pressure of 1.5psi. Turn chamber off to observe safety lock pin retract at < 1 psi. Record date, idle psi and operator.

Emergency Vent			Emergency	Shut-Off /Aut	Safety Lock Pin Device			
Date	Seconds	Ву	Date	Seconds	Ву	Date	PSI/Retracted	Ву

# HYPERBARIC MEDICINE SERVICE WEEKLY HYPERBARIC PERFORMANCE VERIFICATION

Purpose: To assure proper operation of the chamber by checking the following systems on a weekly basis per manufacturer recommendation. *Form to be used with Sechrist 3200 & E model chamber only.*Chamber Serial Number:

- 1. Ventilation Flow Control: The chamber flow rate can adjust from approximately 80-400 liters per minute when the chamber is turned on and compressed to 2ATA. Adjust the flow knob to minimum and maximum. Record date, rates read on the flow meter and operator.
- 2. Emergency Vent: Set the rate to 5psi/minute. Set the vent flow to the maximum setting. Pressurize the chamber to 3ATA. Turn the Master Valve to Emergency Vent position. Press and hold down the Emergency Vent Button to rapidly decompress. Track the time it takes until the safety door lock pin disengages. Record date, seconds and operator.
- **3. Safety Lock Pin Device:** With the chamber turned on it should pressurize to an idle pressure of 1.5psi. Turn chamber off to observe safety lock pin retract at < 1 psi. Record date, idle psi and operator.

V	Ventilation Flow Control			Emergency Vent			Safety Lock Pin Device		
Date	Rate Range	Ву	Date	Seconds	Ву	Date	PSI/Retracted	Ву	