

# THE WOUND CENTER

## *Penn Highlands DuBois*

### THE WOUND CENTER

Each year, millions suffer from chronic wounds caused by diabetes, poor circulation or traumatic injury. These open wounds put patients at risk for serious infection and, if not treated, could lead to amputation or death.

**The Wound Center of Penn Highlands DuBois**, established in 2001, is an outpatient treatment center that provides comprehensive therapy for non-healing wounds. The Wound Center, located at PH DuBois East, has a highly-trained staff with one focus - best outcome for the patient. The motto is "No wound has to be chronic."

The care of non-healing wounds has become a specialty unto itself. The time involved to assist these wounds to heal could be prohibitive for many doctors' offices. The Wound Center works with your doctor, just like any other medical specialist. We will discuss your treatment plan with your physician and keep him/her updated with your progress. You will need to continue to see your doctor for routine medical care.

### YOUR FIRST VISIT TO THE WOUND CENTER

Your first visit to The Wound Center will include a thorough wound assessment and a review of your health history to determine risk factors and barriers to healing. The Wound Center will create a plan of care tailored specifically to you.

This will include regular visits to The Wound Center to provide treatment, evaluate progress and make any changes that may be needed. You or your caregiver will be given detailed instructions on how to care for your wound. Often times, Home Health may be involved to assist with dressing changes or help address ongoing barriers that may occur at home. The wound center

### HYPERBARIC OXYGEN TREATMENT CENTER AND THE WOUND CENTER

Penn Highlands DuBois  
635 Maple Avenue  
DuBois, PA  
**814-371-4320**

[www.phhealthcare.org](http://www.phhealthcare.org)

**Call 371-4320 for an appointment,  
a physician referral is not required.**

### MEET THE STAFF:

**Shalva V. Kakabadze, MD, Medical Director**  
Family Medicine and Wound Care

**Michael T. Wingate, MD**  
General Surgery and Wound Care

**Courtney Johnson-McKissick, DPM, AACFAS**  
Podiatry and Wound Care

**Heather Kisamore, RN, BSN, CWOCN**  
Wound Care/ Ostomy Care

*All providers listed above offer wound care at the center.  
The team collaborates with the patients' primary care physicians.*

The Wound Center accepts most major insurances.

also has an ostomy clinic weekly for those having ostomy issues (urostomy, ileostomy, colostomy)

### EDUCATION AND PREVENTION

Essential to healing is prevention: people who suffer chronic-type wounds may be at risk for wounds in the future. Your education begins on the first visit to The Wound Center and continues until your final visit.

Through a multi-disciplinary approach, The Wound Center provides high quality care which results in excellent outcomes. Treatment(s) may include but not limited to: debridement, compression wraps, casting, negative pressure wound therapy, hyperbaric oxygen therapy, biopsy, skin substitute and laboratory and other diagnostic testing.



Wound Center patients see a specialist, highly-trained in wound care, during every visit. The initial visit includes a comprehensive medical history, physical assessment, wound and past treatment history, wound assessment and patient/family education.

The Wound Center of Penn Highlands DuBois specializes in wound care for patients with chronic wounds of all types. We care for patients with the following types of wounds:

- Diabetic
- Neuropathic
- Pressure
- Ischemic
- Venous insufficiency
- Traumatic
- Surgical
- Vasculitis
- Burns
- Peristomal skin irritations
- As well as other chronic non-healing wounds
- Ostomy Issues

## **HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY**

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy is a treatment offered at the Wound Center of Penn Highlands DuBois in which a patient breathes 100% oxygen while inside a treatment chamber at a pressure higher than sea level pressure (greater than one atmosphere). The 100% oxygen has to be breathed inside of the pressurized chamber for the therapy to be effective.

Primary Functions of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy:

- It increases the concentration of dissolved oxygen in the blood, which enhances the healing process.
  - It helps new blood vessels form.
  - It replaces inert gas in the bloodstream with oxygen, which is then metabolized by the body.
  - It works to kill the wound-causing bacteria.
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