

Letter to the Editor

Sir,

I read with interest the articles on 'G-LOC Survey' and 'Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy in Stroke Cases' in the Jun 92 issue of the Journal. Both the articles are very informative. I have following observations to make :-

- (a) In the article on G-LOC Survey by Wg Cdr H Malik et al, Table IV (Causes of G-LOC) shows only 3 cases where anti G suit has not been worn (Cause SI No 8) while the text mentions 23 such cases (latter being the correct figure). As such Table IV needs to be corrected.

- (b) The article on HBO therapy by Wg Cdr Soodan et al has not brought out clearly its advantage over other conventional modes of therapy. The authors contend in their discussion (page 30) that "The improvement in spasticity was rapid and more in cases on HBO Therapy as compared to patients treated with other modes of treatment". This has not been substantiated by them in their results.

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Reply from Editorial Board/Authors

Observation made by Wg Cdr Bhatt on the basis of the apparent incongruity in Table IV and the text (p 3) of the article "G-Induced Loss of Consciousness (G-LOC) in the Indian Air Force" is not valid and it appears that he has failed to interpret the data presented in the table. Table IV presents the account of the causes of G-LOC, as the aircrew themselves have attributed to, in response to SI No. IX of the questionnaire, vide Appendix of the article. The text figure of 23 incidents when Anti-G suit was not worn, on the other hand, refers to SI No V of the questionnaire. Thus, there is no actual incongruity in the statistics given on this account.

Observations of Wg Cdr Bhatt on the article 'HBO Therapy in Stroke Cases' are also not valid. Discussion on page 30 regarding improvement in spasticity was brought out clearly on page 29. The paper contains data of ten cases who underwent HBO therapy for 10-25 days. These cases had reached some stage of clinical finality. The control cases undergoing physiotherapy had not reached any stage of finality and were not subjected to detailed analysis. However the recovery in motor functions and spasticity in controls was much less as compared to cases treated with HBO therapy.