



**Press Release**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **New Wound Care Center Helps Patients Recover from Chronic Wounds with Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber**

*Specialized services at Reeves Regional Health focus on treating and managing wounds.*

PECOS, Texas (Feb. 20, 2023) – Chronic wounds affect more than 6.5 million patients in the U.S. Without proper treatment, wounds can lead to complications, including non-healing, infections, amputations, or even death. For individuals in the greater Reeves County region, help is within reach with the Wound Care Center at Reeves Regional Health (RRH).

“With our new hospital, the Wound Care Center is not only larger and more comfortable than before, but it underscores how important our services are – and that is something unique for a rural community,” explains Kyle Rasband, a registered nurse and wound care director at RRH. “From new technology and equipment to highly skilled medical professionals, patients can trust they are in good hands.”

RRH began serving patients from a new 140,000-square-foot medical campus in November 2022, replacing a nearly 45-year-old hospital nearing the end of its usage. The Wound Care Center and related capabilities were critical when designing the new facility, resulting in the specialized department.

The local healthcare system has long offered a wound care program from its old facility, but services were limited due to space. Since moving into its replacement hospital, the Center has more room to now provide a comprehensive offering with greater comfort for patients in a soothing ambiance.

In addition to its long-standing wound treatment services, the Center is also celebrating the arrival of its newest service – hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

As a non-invasive medical treatment, hyperbaric oxygen therapy delivers 100 percent oxygen in chambers at pressures greater than the normal atmospheric pressure. The procedure is known to promote healing by increasing the oxygen concentration of the body at the cellular level.

“Helping patients properly heal from their wounds and recover quickly is our priority,” Rasband explains. “Whether it be education on caring for a wound at home, changing dressings for them, or providing more complex treatment solutions, our team will work directly with patients and their physicians to create the best solution.”

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**Reeves Regional Health**

2349 Medical Drive. | Pecos, TX 79772 | 432-447-3551 | [www.reevesregional.com](http://www.reevesregional.com)



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The Center specializes exclusively in treating acute and chronic non-healing wounds using advanced wound care techniques. Experts work with patients with slow-to-heal or non-healing wounds, foot or leg ulcers, non-healing surgical wounds, non-healing skin grafts or surgical flaps, symptoms occurring on or around a point of radiation, bone infection, or crash injuries –to name a few.

“Early intervention is always key when it comes to treating wounds,” says Shellece Lowe, FNP-C, a family nurse practitioner and wound care medical provider at RRH. “As with many health conditions, healing rates can be greatly improved when we get involved early on.”

While some patients are immediately referred to the Center by a medical provider, Lowe adds that they also see patients because of untreated wounds for weeks or even months before receiving specialized care in their department.

No matter the reason for a patient coming in for treatment, Lowe says that the Center can assess each case with an objective goal – healing. Based on a personalized approach to recovery, each patient case is part of an integrated wound care management program.

With individualized patient-focused care, the wound clinic at RRH utilizes the best clinical practices that are highly effective in facilitating the healing process. Tactics often used with patients include surgical debridement, offloading, vacuum-assisted closure, specialty dressing and wraps, cellular and/or tissue-based products (skin substitutes), compression therapy, or surgical interventions.

“When it comes to wound care, sometimes it can be as simple as properly changing bandages or dressings; but those who come through our doors often require more intricate care,” says Orville Cerna, M.D., an Internal Medicine physician at Reeves Regional Rural Health Clinic and medical director of Wound Care Center at RRH. “Regardless of the approach, proper care to any wound can make a huge difference in recovery time and outcomes.”

Hyperbaric therapy is ideal for patients with chronic non-healing wounds, compromised skin grafts and flaps and diabetic-related wounds. The treatment method includes bactericidal and bacteriostatic effects, anti-inflammatory factors, acceleration of revascularization, and reduced reperfusion injuries.

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“While new to our region, hyperbaric oxygen therapy has been around for a long time,” Rasband says. “We’ve long awaited the arrival of this equipment, and now residents of Reeves County will have access to this advanced wound-healing service.”

Rasband adds that hyperbaric oxygen therapy will help some of their patients recover from their wounds more effectively. While not for everyone, this specialized service alone adds yet another first for the region as RRH expands its healthcare capabilities in its new facility.

If you or someone you know suffers from pain or complications related to non-healing wounds, the Wound Care Center at RRH may be an option. For more information, please call 432-447-3551 or ask a physician for a referral.

### **About Reeves Regional Health**

Reeves Regional Health (RRH), formally known as Reeves County Hospital District, provides healthcare services for Reeves County and neighboring West Texas communities. Founded in 1954, RRH, a Level IV Trauma Center, offers various medical services, including emergency care, diagnostic imaging, physical therapy, general surgery, a clinical laboratory, and more. RRH also operates Reeves Regional Home Health and Hospice, and Reeves Regional Rural Health Clinic. In November 2022, RRH began serving patients from a new \$115 million, 140,000-square-foot campus. For more information, please visit [www.reevesregional.com](http://www.reevesregional.com).

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