

# Halotherapy – complementary treatment using salt

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Is human life without salt imaginable? Probably not. Salt symbolises life itself. Salt has been an essential, virtually omnipresent, part of medicine for thousands of years. It has been used as a remedy, a support treatment, and a preventive measure. In the world of stringent medications, side effects, allergies, drug-less remedies like Halotherapy holds utmost value to one's wellness and well-being.

Salt not only stipulates the taste of food but also serves many more purposes in one's day-to-day routine due to its anti-inflammatory, antibacterial and anti-fungal properties. The sodium and chloride ions in the salt serve as the main source of human diet. Sodium is vital for muscle and nerve function and is necessary in the fluid regulation of the body. It helps eliminating toxins in the lungs that are inhaled by the human body and expel impurities through ion exchange.

In today's fast lifestyle, health issues are the biggest burden people all over the world are facing. They tend to neglect the ideal nutrition and diet, precautionary measures taken against pollution, adverse effects of smoking, sleeping patterns, unfavourable stress and anxiety. Halotherapy is the best

remedy for all of these major problems since it revitalizes the lungs and skin.

Salt Therapy also known as Halotherapy is the treatment that makes use of salt, attributing its cleansing properties. In 1830, Felix Boczkowski, a Polish physician studied that the mineworkers of Wieliczka had very few respiratory and skin problems when compared to general population. Inhalation of the salt dry aerosol particles was identified as the main reason. The discovery of salt aerosol and its use in medical treatment paved the way for further research.

In 1964, Mieczyslaw Skulimowski started the Kinga Allergy Treatment at Wieliczka, the world's first underground salt treatment centre. Positive results led more individuals to treat their respiratory and skin problems. In 1980, Dr Alina Chervinskaya, Russian pulmonary physician identified that the negative ions of the dry salt particles were the key therapeutic element. In 1985, Halogenerators (devices used for dispersing salt) were used at the Odessa Institute of Balneology to simulate the environmental condition of the salt mines.

Based on the various researches, Halotherapy has been widely accepted as a natural and safe treatment to people with respiratory and skin

ailments. Halotherapy clinics have opened in Europe, Australia, UK and the US where thousands benefit from this drug-less and relaxing therapy. In India, salt therapy is in its nascent stage and wellness centres such as Salt World are being set up to bring this popular treatment to the people.

Salt Therapy is a safe, natural and drug-less therapy to relieve symptoms of respiratory and skin conditions, a holistic treatment which takes place under simulated conditions of a natural salt cave. Dry microscopic salt particles when inhaled during Halotherapy access the deepest area of the respiratory tract to cleanse lungs of pathogens, smoke residues and pollutants.

The therapy also enhances child's immunity by reducing the IgE levels, improves endurance naturally, and avoids frequent sick days. The granular salt particles when inhaled kills the micro-organisms in the lungs and helps reduce mucus and inflammation. Salt used for Halo therapy sessions is said to have healing properties nursing the diverse skin conditions including Eczema and Psoriasis offering medicinal benefits to the skin. On the other hand, it also relieves stress, depression and fatigue with the soothing and anti-histamine properties of salt.

With the numerous healing stories of people suffering

from asthma, bronchitis, bronchiectasis, allergies, Hay fever/Allergic Rhinitis, COPD, sinusitis, cystic fibrosis, pulmonary fibrosis, cough, throat infection, pharyngitis, tonsillitis, smokers cough, snoring, frequent cold/flu, dermatitis, acne, psoriasis and eczema, Halotherapy helps people in better breathing, healthier skin, sounder sleep, improved physical fitness and endurance and overall wellness. Also athletes and singers to improve their stamina, endurance, lung capacity for better performance are also using Salt Therapy.

Salt World, located at HSR layout in Bangalore is a wellness centre offering natural and drugless therapy to relieve symptoms of respiratory and skin conditions. Aiming at improving the overall health of an individual in a drug-less environment, Salt World uses much sophisticated Halogenerator obtained from UK and the member of Salt Therapy Association (STA), USA.

The sessions of salt therapy take place in the salt rooms that simulates a natural salt cave environment. Salt World uses the state of art technology to provide maximum comfort to their customers. In order to set up a dynamic and controlled room, dry salt aerosol particles of size less than 5 microns are dispersed into an enclosed room using

the halogenerator during the therapy session. The walls and floors of the room are coated with five tons of salt to provide a complete sterile environment for healing as well as to reproduce the micro-climate specific to maintain a sterile salt cave.

The special ventilators and boosters are being used to exhaust the salt particles outside the salt room at the end of every treatment session. The treatment duration is for about an hour with the relaxed environment where one can read, enjoy the music, relax and breathe easy while receiving the benefits of salt therapy. Having a separate salt session room for children sets Salt World apart from the other players.

The children's room has everything from toys, puzzles, games, books and television to keep them engaged and make it a fun session for them. Salt World believes in providing responsive and high-quality care in a cost-effective manner. Despite providing Salt Therapy, Salt World also provides complete package and turnkey solution to open a salt room in any premises like hotel, resort, spa, yoga centre, private home, apartment, hospital, clinic, massage centre, shopping mall, school, pre-school etc.

(The author is founder of Salt World)