



Flying high: Oleg Bassovitch, Barbara Puszko and a patient test a simulator.

Altitude simulator has patients on high

by SHANNON NORRIS

A HIGH altitude simulator developed by an ex-Monash University student is being tested in Glen Waverley.

Oleg Bassovitch, managing director of biomedical research and development company Biomedtech and creator of the device, said clinical trials to test the machine's suitability in the treatment of chronic fatigue syndrome had begun.

"In Melbourne the trials have just started and we have 10 patients, but in Sydney, trials on patients with chronic fatigue have been running for three months. Trials in the athletic field were also conducted last year with success," Mr Bassovitch said.

He said the portable machine was the only one in Melbourne available for

public use, and with just a few available in Queensland and NSW, the concept was fairly new.

The device uses reduced oxygenated air to simulate the affect of high-altitude exercise, and can be used to train athletes and treat certain medical conditions, including hypertension, cardiovascular problems, asthma and chronic fatigue syndrome.

It can also be used to test the suitability of medical patients who want to visit high-altitude destinations or travel on commercial flights.

Clinical trials are being held at the Wellbeing and Longevity Centre at Glen Waverley. For more information about the trials call 9803 1000, or for information about the Go2Altitude machine, call Biomedtech on 9553 7200.