DETECTION IS KEY

HAVING A FUNCTIONING CO DETECTOR IS KEY TO AVOIDING TRAGEDY.

- Install a battery-operated or battery backup detector in the hallway near each sleeping area in your home.
- Check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall, and replace the detector every five years.
- Use a dry dusting cloth to wipe the outside of your detectors

LONGER-TERM EFFECTS

Symptoms related to the nervous system and brain can come on after recovery from carbon monoxide poisoning. The risk of these is higher in people who lost consciousness from the carbon monoxide and older people.

SYMPTOMS MIGHT INCLUDE:

- Memory loss
- Personality changes
- Movement problems

HOW TO AVOID CO IN YOUR HOME

01 Have your furnace, water heater, and gas-burning appliances serviced every year

02 Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors

03 Have your chimney checked and cleaned every year

04 Never use a gas oven for heating

05 Never use a generator inside or less than 20 feet from a window, door, or vent

06 Never run a car in an attached garage, even with the door open

WHAT TO DO!!

When you suspect CO poisoning, quickly taking the following actions can save a life:

01 Move the victim immediately to fresh air in an open area.

02 Call 9-1-1 or another local emergency number for medical attention or assistance.

03 Administer 100 percent oxygen using a tightfitting mask if the victim is breathing.

04 Administer CPR if the victim has stopped breathing.

WARNING!
You may be exposed to fatal levels of CO poisoning in a rescue. Only attempt it if you can do so quickly and safely.

WHO'S AT RISK FOR CARBON MONOXIDE

Anyone can be at risk, but the most vulnerable are:
- Infants, the elderly, those with heart disease, anemia or breathing problems
- Those who are asleep, drugged, or drunk

Winter can be a prime time for CO poisoning because people:
- Turn on their heating systems
- Mistakenly warm their cars in garages

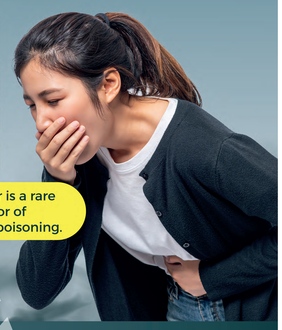
IN COLD WEATHER TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS.

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS OF CO POISONING

Symptoms vary from person to person, but they may include:

- Breathing problems
- Chest pain
- Convulsions
- Dizziness
- Drowsiness
- Nausea and vomiting
- Headache
- Unconsciousness
- Fainting

Deep red skin color is a rare but telitale indicator of carbon monoxide poisoning.

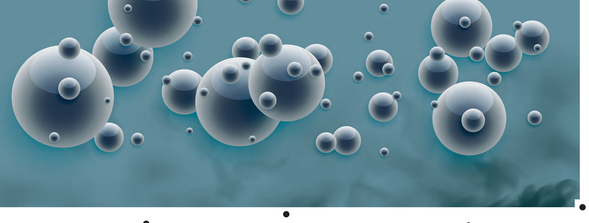


WHAT IS IT?

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, tasteless, and invisible poisonous gas. If it goes undetected, it can lead to serious injury, especially when people are asleep.

This "invisible killer" is produced by burning fuel in cars, stoves, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges, portable generators, etc. When the gas builds up in enclosed spaces, people or animals who breathe it can be poisoned.

WHAT MAKES CO DEADLY?

Carbon monoxide is harmful when breathed because it replaces the oxygen in the blood and deprives the heart, brain and other vital organs of oxygen.

Large amounts of CO can overcome you in minutes without warning — causing you to lose consciousness and suffocate.