

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning

What is Carbon Monoxide Poisoning?

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas. Many household items, including gas and oil burning furnaces, portable generators, and charcoal grills produce CO as a byproduct of burning fuel.

Signs and Symptoms

The most common symptoms include:

- Headache
- Dizziness
- Weakness
- Upset stomach
- Vomiting
- Chest pain
- Confusion

Prevention:

- Carbon Monoxide Detectors
 - Install battery-operated or battery back-up CO detectors near every sleeping area in your home (many smoke detectors also monitor for CO)
 - Check detectors regularly
- Oil & Gas Furnace inspections every year
- Portable Generators
 - Never use inside your home or garage
 - Only use generators outside, more than 20 feet away from your home, doors, and windows

Who is at Risk?

Everyone is at risk for CO poisoning. Infants, the elderly, people with chronic heart disease, anemia, or breathing problems are more likely to get sick



Carbon Monoxide poisoning is a reportable disease in the state of Kansas. All cases must be reported to KDHE via the Epi Hotline: 877-427-7317