THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning (Adult and Pediatric)

CFR and All Provider Levels

- 1. Ensure that the scene is safe to enter
- 2. Remove the patient from the contaminated environment
- 3. ABCs and vital signs
- 4. Airway management
- 5. Administer oxygen via non-rebreather
- 6. Assess for shock and treat as needed

CFR STOP

EMT

- 7. Obtain patient's carbon monoxide level (SpCO) if available
- 8. Transport patients with continuous high concentration oxygen to the closest Hyperbaric Center (Appendix I: Hospital Specialty Capabilities) for ANY of the following conditions:
 - Asymptomatic patient with SpCO > 25%
 - Patients with a high index of suspicion for carbon monoxide poisoning AND any of the following symptoms: altered mental status, headache, or syncope
 - Pregnant patients with SpCO > 15%

EMT STOP

Paramedic

- 12. Perform advanced airway management as needed
- 13. Begin cardiac monitoring
- 14. Obtain intravascular access

Paramedic STOP

Medical Control Options

Key Points / Considerations

- Transport patients with criteria as determined by the General Operating Procedures to the closest appropriate Hyperbaric Center
- Cyanide poisoning should be considered for patients who have been exposed to smoke from a burning substance in an enclosed space
- Patients shall be transported with continuous high concentration oxygen even if signs and symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning resolve
- Oxygen saturation (SpO₂) obtained from pulse oximetry monitoring is not accurate and may be falsely elevated in a patient with carbon monoxide poisoning