



# Preventing Carbon Monoxide Poisoning







#### What is Carbon Monoxide (CO)?

A poisonous gas that...







## Produced by the incomplete combustion of fuels such as

Oil Gas Petrol

**Wood Coal Charcoal** 

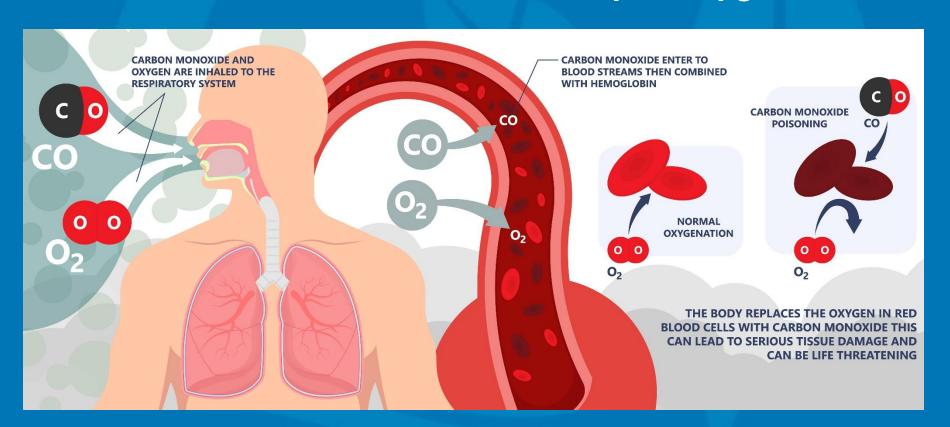
Caused by faulty appliances, blocked chimney/flue or impaired oxygen supply/ventilation





### **CO** Poisoning

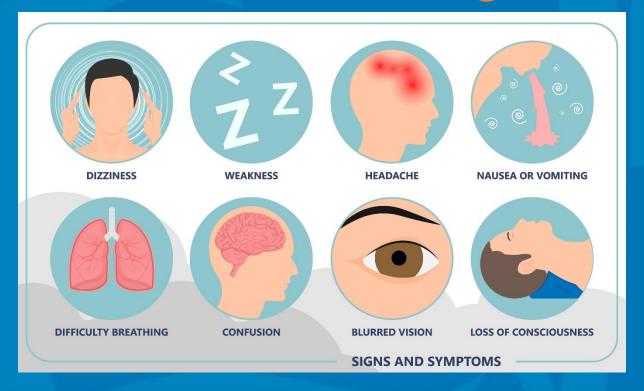
#### When CO is inhaled it starves the body of oxygen







### Symptoms of CO Poisoning



CO Poisoning can be misdiagnosed so if you think you are suffering from CO poisoning. Consult your Doctor or call 999.





#### How can I protect myself?

- Service appliances annually.
- Always use a reputable engineer who is suitably qualified.
  - Gas Safe
  - OFTEC for Oil
- Get Chimneys & Flues swept regularly.









- Get a electronic CO alarm. These are the only way of knowing if CO is being given off
- Its recommended that each room with a fuel burning appliance has a CO alarm. Follow the manufacturer's fitting instructions carefully
- Test CO alarms regularly and check if the alarm has a 'replace by date'









# What to do in an emergency? Think T.A.S.K!

Turn off or extinguish the heating source/appliance if safe to do so

Air - ventilate your home by opening windows and doors, stay outside in the fresh air

Seek medical help if you feel unwell

Keep all heating sources/appliances off until serviced (or chimney/flues cleaned) by a qualified professional





#### What to do in an emergency?

- If you experience any symptoms and believe CO may be involved, seek urgent medical advice from either your Doctor or Emergency Department.
- Ask for a blood or breath test to confirm the presence of CO. Be aware, tests may be inaccurate if taken more than 4 hours after exposure has ceased.





### For more information contact 028 9034 0160 or envhealth@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk

#### To find qualified engineers:

Gas Safe Register	Safe REGISTER	www.gassaferegister.co.uk
OFTEC	OFTEC 8	www.oftec.co.uk
NI Association of Chimney Sweeps	CONTHERN MEETING	www.niacs.co.uk