Pearls
• CO is colorless and odorless.
• Pulse oximetry will likely be normal with CO toxicity.
• Hyperbaric oxygen is recommended for those with AMS, seizure, coma, focal deficits, blindness, CO levels > 25% or > 20% if pregnant. John Muir Medical Center – Walnut Creek is the only emergency hyperbaric chamber in the Bay Area. Contact the Base Hospital for direction.
• Consider cyanide poisoning in any patient with CO intoxication.
• For suspected cyanide poisoning, contact the receiving hospital early.
• Consider cyanide poisoning in any patient with AMS.

History
• Industrial or closed space fire
• Facial burns
• Previous CO poisoning
• Propane powered equipment (e.g., power mower, tractor, gas powered equipment)
• Gas home heaters, natural gas stoves, kerosene heaters
• Gas clothes dryer or hot water heater
• Multiple people or pets with similar symptoms

Signs and Symptoms
• AMS
• Malaise/Fatigue
• Flu-like symptoms
• Weakness
• Headache
• Dizziness
• Blurred vision
• Ataxia
• Seizure
• Nausea/vomiting/cramping
• Chest pain

Differential
• Diabetic emergency
• Infection/sepsis
• Myocardial infarction
• Anaphylaxis
• Renal failure
• Head injury/trauma
• Ingestion/toxic exposure

E
Immeditely remove from exposure
Airway support
High flow Oxygen regardless of SpO₂
Blood glucose analysis
Cardiac monitor
CO-oximetry (SpCO), if available
12-Lead ECG
Consider, IV
Consider EtCO₂ monitoring
Consider, Normal Saline bolus
Use Broselow Tape; refer to dosing guide
May repeat x2

P
Notify receiving facility.
Consider Base Hospital for medical direction

Emergency Hyperbaric Chambers
John Muir Medical Center – Walnut Creek