

CARBON MONOXIDE KILLS

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MIDWIFE SAVES FAMILY FROM CO POISONING

Environmental Carbon Monoxide (CO) enabled Midwife to save lives of mother and father to be.

Jill and Simon are expecting their first baby. On the first midwife visit at home Jill is smoking 15 cigarettes per day and Simon 20 per day. Both stating that they smoke outside their home.

With the CO check baby monitor (MD Diagnostics Ltd) the environmental reading in the lounge showed 9ppm. This lead the Midwife to talk of other causes of a raised CO level including discussion around faulty gas appliances.

Subsequently Jill and Simon had their boiler checked and found it to be leaking CO. Now fixed, Jill, Simon and bump-to-be have a safe environment to live in. With the support from the Smoking in Pregnancy Midwife, Jill and Simon went onto have successful quits and remained smoke free postnatally.



CARBON MONOXIDE IS
COLOURLESS
ODOURLESS
TASTELESS

THE SYMPTOMS TO CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING ARE SIMILAR TO FLU, A VIRUS OR FOOD POISONING

BARRIERS TO CO SCREENING

TIME CONSTRAINTS 

UNSURE HOW TO USE EQUIPMENT CORRECTLY 

LACK OF KNOWLEDGE 

FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS 

FEAR OF LOSING SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FAMILY 

OTHER CAUSES OF HIGH CO READING 

- CIGARETTES
- INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS
- FAULTY BOILER
- POLLUTION
- LACTOSE INTOLERANCE
- SHISHA PIPE

FROM ENVIRONMENTAL CO POISONING THERE ARE APPROX.

 4000 A&E ADMISSIONS

200 HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS 

 30-50 DEATHS ENGLAND AND WALES

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF CO POISONING



Headaches



Nausea



Breathless



Dizziness



Collapse



Unconsciousness

CO IN THE HOME

CO can also seep into your property from adjoining properties which are poorly insulated.



MANAGEMENT (COMA)

 COHABITEES OR CO-OCCUPANTS

 OUTDOORS

 MAINTENANCE

 ALARM



Fetal abnormality risks increase with maternal smoking and exposure

FETAL ABNORMALITY

Health & Safety 
executive helpline
0800 111 999

Council of gas and environmental monitoring
CoGDEM 0800 111 999, 0800 1694 457

Qualified heating engineer
GORGI consumer advice 0800 915 0485

NHS Choices
www.nhs.uk/carbonmonoxide