



GUIDE TO CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

The facts

- **Carbon monoxide** (CO) appears all around us and **exposure** can come from many **different situations**
- **Dangerous** due to its **colourless** and **odourless** qualities
- **Kills** 20-30 people every year
- Many more **suffer ill effects** because of exposure to the gas

Carbon monoxide is typically **produced** by **gas appliances** (or **other heating appliances**) in the **home** or in the **workplace** as an **exhaust gas**. **Maintenance** of those **appliances** is **crucial** to make sure carbon monoxide is **expelled** as a **harmless gas** into the atmosphere.

What are the symptoms of Carbon Monoxide poisoning?

The **symptoms** of **Carbon Monoxide exposure** vary with the amount of gas inhaled:

- Low level - feelings of nausea, headaches, shortness of breath and dizziness
- High level - potentially fatal

Seek help immediately if you have had **exposure** to Carbon Monoxide gas.



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Telephone 0844 858 3200

Signs of Carbon Monoxide leaks:

- sooty deposits on or around appliances, and
- flames which burn yellow instead of blue

If you have concerns about carbon monoxide or a gas leak you should call the gas emergency line on 0800 111 999.

Exposure at work

If your **employer** has **exposed** you to **carbon monoxide** you could potentially make a **compensation claim** against your employer. They have a **duty** to ensure that you **do not receive exposure** to any **substances harmful** to your health under Government regulations.

Exposure in a rented home

If you **rent** your home from a **landlord** (eg local authority, housing association or private landlord) and become **affected** by **carbon monoxide** from gas appliances you may have a **compensation claim**. Your landlord has a **duty** under gas regulations to **service all gas/heating appliances** on an **annual basis**. In addition, your landlord has a **duty** to ensure that you and anyone living with you **do not suffer personal injuries** as a result of **defects** in the property which would include **defective gas/heating appliances**.

Other exposure

Potential compensation claims:

- if you have purchased a **gas/heating appliance** which is **defective**, or

- if you have had **defective work** carried out to a **gas/heating appliance**, or
- if **exposure to carbon monoxide** occurred whilst in **other premises** eg holiday accommodation

What we will do

Solicitor and partner Bryan Nott has **extensive experience** of acting for victims of Carbon Monoxide poisoning and can advise you about your **legal position** in relation to possible **compensation claims**.

Costs

- We will deal with your case on a '**no win no fee**' basis, otherwise known as a Conditional Fee Agreement. This means that if your claim is successful we will claim your legal fees back from the losing party, in addition to you receiving your full compensation award.

This guide contains information on current legal issues applicable at the time of printing. Note there may have been changes subsequently which have not been incorporated in to the material. This guide is intended for information purposes only and its content should not be applied to any particular set of facts or relied upon without legal or other professional advice. For further information on how we can help you please contact:

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