

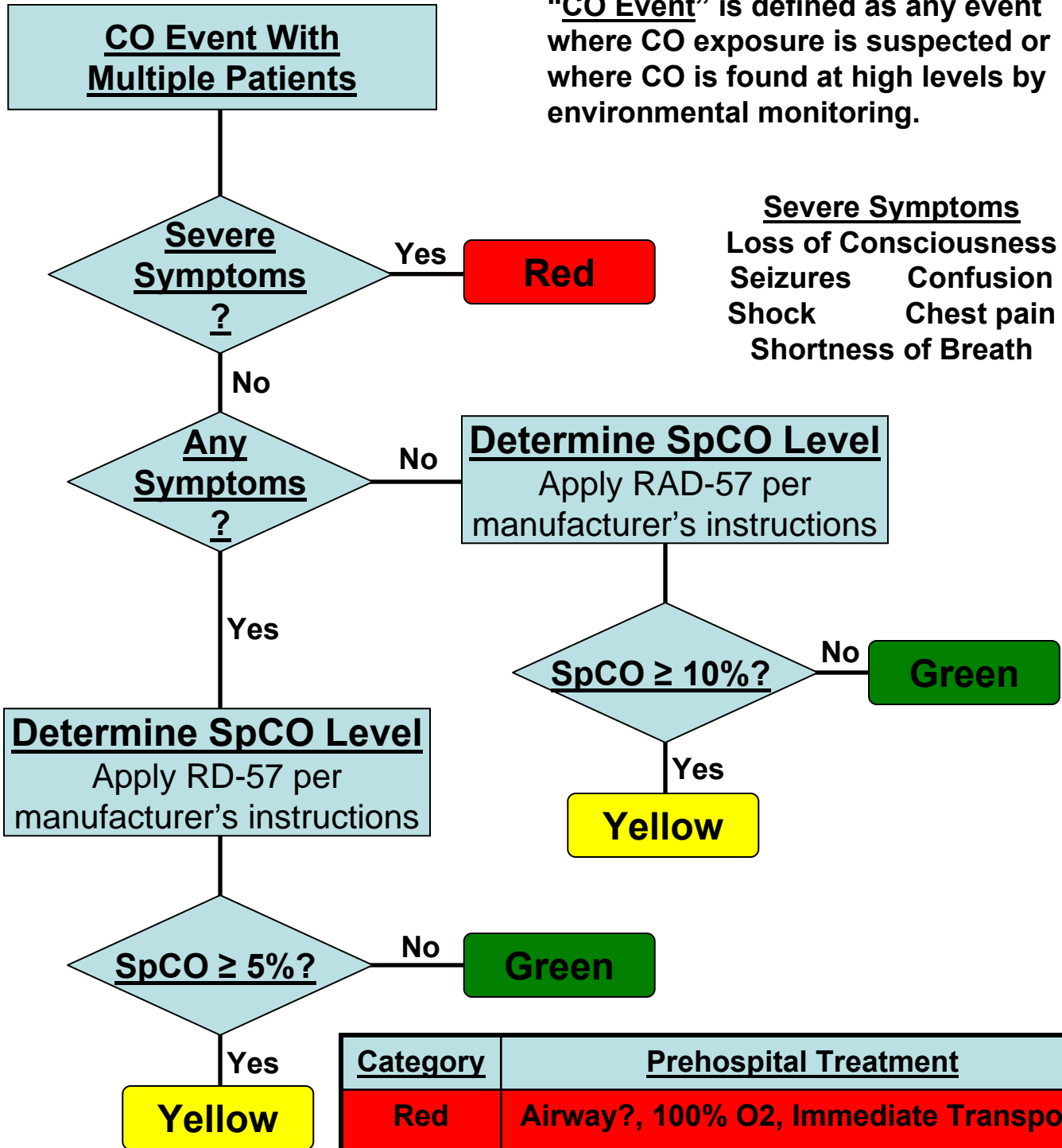
# Triage in the Carbon Monoxide Exposure Incident:

## Use of the RAD-57 CO detector

“CO Event” is defined as any event where CO exposure is suspected or where CO is found at high levels by environmental monitoring.

### Severe Symptoms

Loss of Consciousness  
Seizures      Confusion  
Shock        Chest pain  
Shortness of Breath



| <u>Category</u> | <u>Prehospital Treatment</u>          |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Red             | Airway?, 100% O2, Immediate Transport |
| Yellow          | 100% O2, Delayed Transport            |
| Green           | Continue Fresh Air, Minor Care        |

## **Triage in the Carbon Monoxide Exposure Incident: Use of the RAD-57 CO detector**

This guideline is to supplement, not replace TJEMS patient care protocols or the SOG's of the Charlottesville-Albemarle Rescue Squad. Please refer to these documents for initial scene and patient management.

As carbon monoxide (CO) is considered the “silent killer”, its presence should be considered on the fire ground, confined spaces, or during indoor MCI's where CO is suspected or a CO detector has alarmed. Care of the victims of suspected CO exposure should proceed as follows:

1. All persons entering areas of suspected elevated CO levels should don appropriate PPE, including, but not limited to SCBA.
2. Remove all ambulatory persons to fresh air as soon as safely permitted. Remaining patients should be triaged and extracted according to START-TRIAGE protocols.
3. Secondary triage away from the CO source in accordance with the accompanying flowchart will allow for determination of further treatment and transport considerations.
4. Approved triage tags should be used when possible with CO level, time measured, and time O2 applied recorded on the triage tag along with standard information.
5. Use of the RAD-57 should not interfere with treatment or transport of any other suspected or identified injury or illness nor does it negate the need for further management of the symptomatic patient as other diagnoses may still be present.

| <b>CO Triage with RAD-57 CO-Oximeter</b>                 |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>I<br/>M<br/>M<br/>E<br/>D<br/>I<br/>A<br/>T<br/>E</b> | <b>Severe Symptoms</b>                       |   |  |
|  | <b>D<br/>E<br/>L<br/>A<br/>Y<br/>E<br/>D</b> | <b>Any Symptoms and CO <math>\geq</math> 5%</b> |  |
|  |  | <b>No Symptoms and CO <math>\geq</math> 10%</b> |  |
|  | <b>M<br/>I<br/>N<br/>O<br/>R</b>             | <b>Any Symptoms and CO &lt; 5%</b>              |  |
|  |  | <b>No Symptoms and CO &lt; 10%</b>              |  |



**Operating The RAD-57:**

- Press on/off button
- Place probe on patient finger  
Wire from probe should be on top of finger  
Do not force finger into probe too far  
Finger should be clean, warm and dry  
Use 2nd, 3rd or 4th digit, no thumb or little finger
- Device will take 6 –10 seconds to calibrate (you will see zeros)
- Device will display pulse rate and SpO<sub>2</sub>
- Press SpCO button to display carboxyhemoglobin %
- Display will return to pulse rate and SpO<sub>2</sub> in 10 seconds

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|  |                        |                                 |                                 |                                    |                                    |                      |  |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| <b>CO Triage with RAD-57 CO-Oximeter</b> | <b>Severe Symptoms</b> | <b>Any Symptoms and CO ≥ 5%</b> | <b>No Symptoms and CO ≥ 10%</b> | <b>Any Symptoms and CO &lt; 5%</b> | <b>No Symptoms and CO &lt; 10%</b> | <b>M I N O R</b>     |  |
|  |                        |                                 |                                 |                                    |                                    | <b>D E L A Y E D</b> |  |
|  |                        | <b>I M M E D I A T E</b>        |                                 |                                    |                                    |                      |  |

|  |                        |                                 |                                 |                                    |                                    |                      |  |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| <b>CO Triage with RAD-57 CO-Oximeter</b> | <b>Severe Symptoms</b> | <b>Any Symptoms and CO ≥ 5%</b> | <b>No Symptoms and CO ≥ 10%</b> | <b>Any Symptoms and CO &lt; 5%</b> | <b>No Symptoms and CO &lt; 10%</b> | <b>M I N O R</b>     |  |
|  |                        |                                 |                                 |                                    |                                    | <b>D E L A Y E D</b> |  |
|  |                        | <b>I M M E D I A T E</b>        |                                 |                                    |                                    |                      |  |