



Regional Emergency Medical Organization

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## **REMAC Advisory: 2007-02: Carboxyhemoglobin Monitor Masimo RAD-57™**

The Masimo RAD-57 can be a valuable diagnostic tool when properly used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Within the REMO Region it may only be used by agencies and providers in accordance with these guidelines and after agency in-service training.

In the pre-hospital setting, carbon monoxide poisoning should always be a diagnosis of exclusion. The SpCO reading is to be used as an additional screening measure. The patient's clinical picture, signs and symptoms, must be the primary consideration when making treatment and transportation decisions. Other identifiable causes with similar symptoms should also be considered. This is especially important in any instance involving only one patient. As always, treat the patient, not the device.

### **Regional Guidelines:**

- **Any patient with suspected carbon monoxide poisoning should receive oxygen via NRB mask.**
- **The RAD-57 may be used as a screening tool for ASYMPTOMATIC potentially exposed people:**
  - **If there is a CO alarm in a residence, the RAD-57 may be used to test for levels on the occupants of the location.**
  - **Any asymptomatic patient with a level of greater than 15% should receive oxygen for 30 minutes, then reassess the patient.**
- **The RAD-57 may be used as a screening tool for SYMPTOMATIC patients.**
  - **If there is a CO alarm in a residence, the RAD-57 may be used to test for levels on the ill occupants of the location.**
  - **Carbon monoxide poisoning does not have specific, clear cut symptoms, and other medical conditions may present with dizziness, nausea or confusion.**
  - **All symptomatic patients should be transported, regardless of RAD-57 level.**
- **Contact medical control for CONSIDERATION of direct transport to a hyperbaric center if the patient's SpCO reading is > 30 AND/OR the patient is unconscious, has significant altered mental status or the patient is pregnant.**
- **The RAD-57 may be used as a screening tool for MULTIPLE patients. Consult a REMO Physician for guidance regarding transport location decisions and on-scene treatment and release when multiple patients are involved. If there is potential for greater than 5 patients, consider contacting ReMAC to request a physician to the scene.**

**Special Considerations:**

- **Pediatrics** – The RAD-57 is not intended for use on patients weighing <30 kg
- **Pregnant Women** – The fetal SpCO may be 10-15% higher than the maternal reading
- **Smokers** – Heavy smokers may have baseline SpCO levels up to 10%
- A misapplied or dislodged sensor may cause inaccurate readings
- Never use tape to secure the sensor
- Do not place the sensor on the thumb or 5<sup>th</sup> digit

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