TOXIC INHALATION
ALWAYS USE STANDARD PRECAUTIONS

INDICATION
- Respiratory distress caused by inhalation of toxic gases
- Symptoms may include headache, malaise, dizziness, nausea/vomiting, seizures, hypotension, coma; may be associated with cherry-red color of mucous membranes (late sign)
- Consider carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning or cyanide poisoning with any patient exposed to products of combustion toxic gases in an enclosed area
- ONLY if patient exhibits serious signs and symptoms of smoke inhalation (e.g. unconscious/unresponsive, hypotension, and/or severely ALOC) treat with CYANOKIT (hydroxocobalamin)

TREATMENT
- Rapid removal of patient from toxic environment
- ALS RMC
- Administer high flow oxygen despite normal oxygen saturation levels
- If wheezing - Albuterol 5 mg in 6 ml NS via HHN, repeat as indicated
- CO monitoring, if available
  - High Suspicion of CO poisoning:
    - Any patient (non-smoker) with CO level >9%
    - Any patient (smoker) with CO level >12%
- At Risk for CO poisoning (at risk = pregnant, children <6, elderly, patients with history of respiratory problems)
  - Any “at risk” patient (nonsmoker) with CO level >4%
  - Any “at risk” patient (smoker) with CO level >8%
  - Any patient with CO symptoms and confirmed source of CO
- ONLY if patient exhibits serious signs and symptoms of smoke inhalation (e.g. unconscious/unresponsive, hypotension, and/or severely ALOC) treat with CYANOKIT (hydroxocobalamin):
  - Adult: 5 g IV/IO infusion over 15 minutes. May repeat once if severe signs of poisoning and lack of clinical response to first dose; MAX total dose of 10 g.
  - Pediatric: Not approved.

DOCUMENTATION – ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS
- Nature of exposure
- CO levels
- At-risk criteria