

## ***Poisoning: Cyanide - Adult***

---

Symptoms: headache, confusion, dyspnea, chest tightness, nausea.

Signs: change in LOC, seizure, dilated pupils, tachypnea + hypertension (early), bradypnea + hypotension (late), shock, vomiting.

### **Basic Standing Orders**

**B**

- ▶ Routine Patient Care.
- ▶ Decontamination concurrent with initial resuscitation
  - ♦ If patient exposed to gas only and does not have skin or ocular irritation, does not need decontamination.
  - ♦ If patient exposed to liquid, decontamination required. Avoid self-contamination.
- ▶ Consider ALS intercept/air medical transport.

### **Advanced Standing Orders**

**A**

- ▶ Obtain IV access if situation permits.

### **Paramedic Standing Orders**

**P**

- ▶ Hydroxocobalamin is the preferred treatment. If clinical suspicion of cyanide poisoning is high, hydroxocobalamin should be administered without delay.
- ▶ Hydroxocobalamin: 5 gm dose over 15 min. Using a Cyanokit\*\*, The starting dose of CYANOKIT for adults is 5 gm (contained in a single vial) administered by IV infusion over 15 mins (Approximately 15ml/min) Depending upon the severity of the poisoning and the clinical response, a second dose of 5 gm may be administered by IV infusion for a total dose of 10 gm. The rate of infusion for the second dose may range from 15 minutes (for patients in extremis) to 120 minutes, as clinically indicated.

**NOTE:** \*\* Cyanokit ®: each kit contains one glass vial (200ml), each containing 5 gm lyophilized hydroxocobalamin for injection, one sterile transfer spike, one sterile IV infusion set, and one quick use reference guide. (Diluent is not included. NS is recommended)