

How it is for victims?

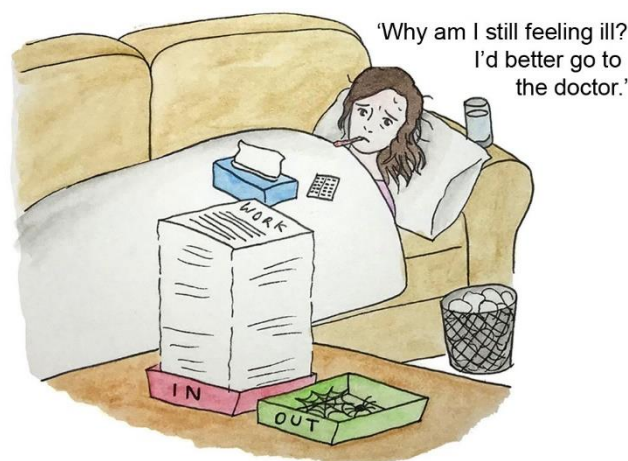
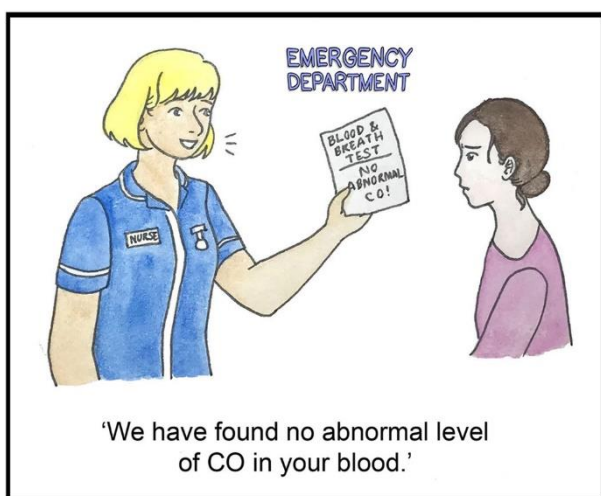


The tenant feels ill and calls the gas emergency service on **0800 111999**



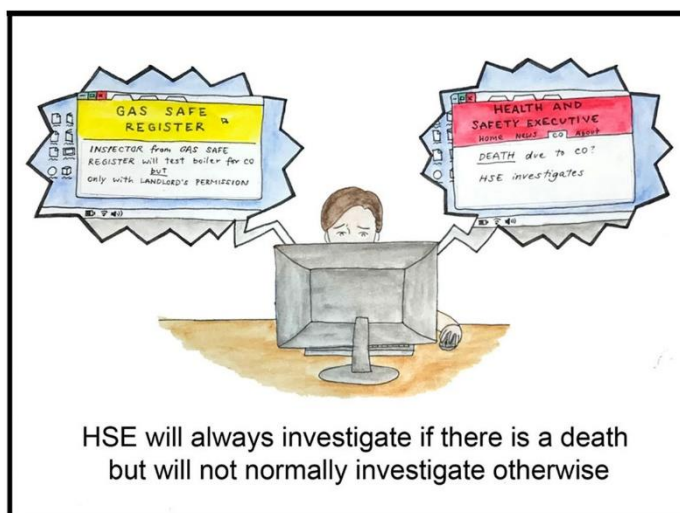
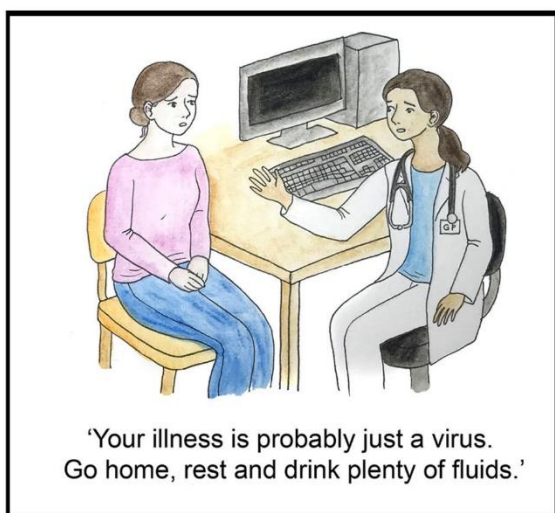
If you suspect a carbon monoxide (CO) leak open all the windows and doors and turn everything off. Unlike gas, you can't smell, taste, see or hear CO

The CO will have usually dispersed by the time the 'First Call Operator' (FCO) arrives. The FCO will turn the gas off & check next door but will not reconnect, relight & test gas appliances for CO. The FCO may advise you to go to A&E or your GP.



Over the charity's 25 years, survivors have consistently told us that breath or blood tests aren't carried out for several hours, often several days, by which time the CO will have usually left the blood.

Even when tested negative for CO and with all gas appliances turned off, survivors can report still feeling ill. It can take time for CO to cause injury and/or possible exposure from unsuspected appliance.



If gas work has been done in the last 6 months by a Registered Gas Engineer (RGE), the Gas Safe Register (GSR) will send a GSR inspector to inspect the appliance and test it for CO. The customer needs to request this free service. The GSR will also inspect suspected faults made by a non-registered engineer (<https://tinyurl.com/rxoohoq>).

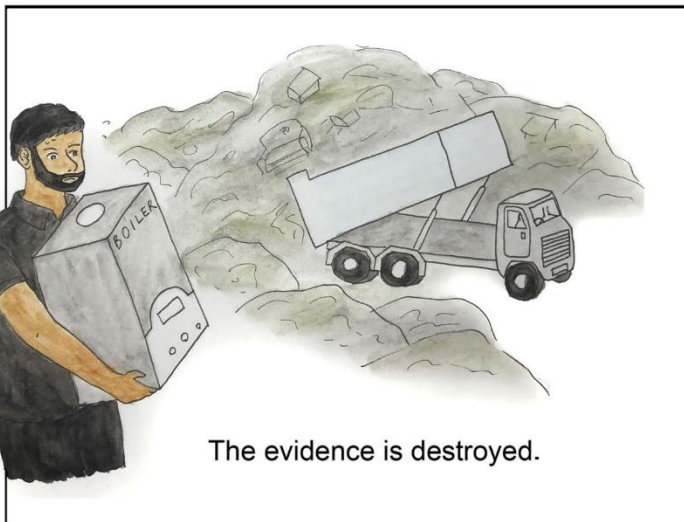


Tenant rings the landlord. 'I need your permission to call in a Gas Safe Register Inspector to test the boiler for CO.'

'The gas emergency service has condemned the boiler so it may need replacing.'

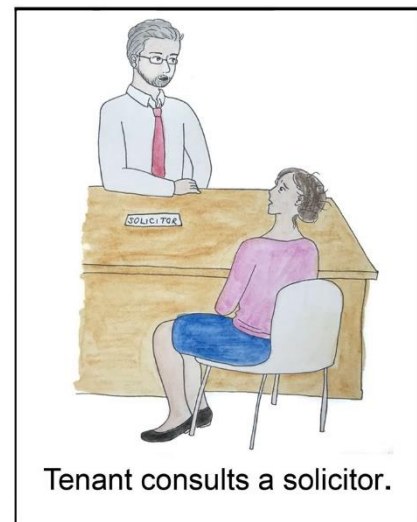


If the survivor is a tenant, the Gas Safe Register inspector will not test an appliance for CO without the landlord's permission (<https://tinyurl.com/wvppdxg>). Tenants are frightened of being evicted if they ask. RGEs seem to think GSR's policy applies to them too. Even if tenants do ask, the evidence may disappear. It is almost impossible for the average person to find &/or pay for a qualified independent gas expert to test.



The evidence is destroyed.

Servicing/taking the boiler out destroys evidence because the emissions from the appliance & its flue cannot now be tested for CO. It is important for medical treatment to know how much CO a survivor is likely to have been exposed to in PPM. i.e. Parts Per Million.



Tenant consults a solicitor.

A solicitor won't generally take on a tenant's claim for damages unless there is sufficient evidence of CO and its effect on their health. See <https://www.newlawjournal.co.uk/>



The tenant is too sick to work.

Deaths and injuries from unintentional CO poisoning cost the UK taxpayer £178 million per year (<https://tinyurl.com/tebksgo>). Simple Government measures could prevent tragedies & cost to taxpayer.



Survivors may become very ill and lose their jobs or housing. They are often disbelieved even by the GP, friends and family. Proof of PPM of CO in writing would change this.