James R. Williams EMS Educator and Speaker

"It's Not Rotten Eggs Your Smelling" (60 – 90 minutes)

NCCR Category: Airway, Respiration, & Ventilation Medical (Toxicological Skills) Breakout/Concurrent Sessions

Summary

Hydrogen sulfide is a colorless, flammable, and extremely hazardous gas which has a peculiar "rotten egg" smell. This gas occurs naturally in petroleum and natural gas production, and is found in hot springs, sewage, and other industrial activities. This chemical is both an irritant and a chemical asphyxiant with effects on oxygen utilization and the central nervous system. This session will explore responder safety, case presentations, and treatments of exposures.

Objectives

- Identify areas where hydrogen sulfide is found.
- Describe the health effects of exposure.
- Describe responder safety considerations.
- Describe treatments for exposure.