

# Propane poisoning

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 [medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002836.htm](https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002836.htm)

Propane is a colorless and odorless flammable gas that can turn into liquid under very cold temperatures.

This article discusses the harmful effects from breathing in or swallowing propane. Breathing in or swallowing propane can be harmful. Propane takes the place of oxygen in the lungs. This makes breathing difficult or impossible.

This article is for information only. DO NOT use it to treat or manage an actual poison exposure. If you or someone you are with has an exposure, call the local emergency number (such as 911), or your local poison center can be reached directly by calling the national toll-free Poison Help hotline (1-800-222-1222) from anywhere in the United States.

## Symptoms

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Symptoms depend on the type of contact, but may include:

- Burning sensation
- Convulsions
- Cough
- Diarrhea
- Dizziness
- Fever
- General weakness
- Headache
- Heartbeat -- irregular
- Heartbeat -- rapid
- Lightheadedness
- Loss of consciousness (coma, or unresponsiveness)
- Nausea and vomiting
- Nervousness
- Pain and numbness in arms and legs
- Skin irritation
- Slow and shallow breathing
- Weakness

Touching liquid propane results in frostbite-like symptoms.

