

- fresh mowed hay smell [phosgene]) which may be helpful but should not be relied upon as the human nose is a poor discriminator of scent
2. Respiratory distress (retractions, wheezing, stridor)
  3. Decreased oxygen saturation
  4. Skin color
  5. Neurologic status assessment
  6. Reduction in work of breathing after treatment
  7. Improved oxygenation after breathing

### **Quality Improvement**

**Associated NEMSIS Protocol(s) (eProtocol.01)** (for additional information, go to [www.nemsis.org](http://www.nemsis.org))

- 9914033—Exposure - Airway/Inhalation Irritants
- 9914139—Medical - Respiratory Distress/Asthma/COPD/Reactive Airway

### **Key Documentation Elements**

- Document key aspects of the exam to assess for a change after each intervention:
  - Respiratory rate
  - Oxygen saturation
  - Use of accessory muscles or tracheal tugging
  - Breath sounds
  - Air entry/stridor
  - Mental status
  - Color
  - Reduction of burning sensation in airway/pharynx

### **Performance Measures**

- Clinical improvement in patient and response to therapy
- Survival rates of victims
- Long term sequelae of the victims
- No EMS clinicians injured while managing these incidents

### **References**

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