

<b>Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board POLICY &amp; PROCEDURES MANUAL</b>	
Section: G. Emergency Medical Services	Effective Date: Sept. 14, 2009
Topic: 4. Operations Directives	Replaces: July 1, 2004
Subject: 46. Do Not Resuscitate (DNR)	
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**PURPOSE**

To ensure Paramedics recognize and if conditions are met, honour a valid Do Not Resuscitate Order (DNR).

**APPLICATION**

Paramedics, EMAs

**PROCEDURE**

- 1) EMA's and Paramedics shall recognize and honour a Do Not Resuscitate Order if it complies with the current MOHLTC Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) Standard.
- 2) The EMA or Paramedic must be presented with a valid DNR Confirmation Form with Serial Number.
- 3) A DNR Order does not preclude interventions or therapies considered necessary to provide comfort or alleviate pain, including but not limited to those listed on the DNR Confirmation Form.
- 4) Patients who have a valid DNR Confirmation Form may not be considered suitable for multiple patient transport if the EMA or Paramedic, through patient assessment and consultation with sending facility health care providers/escorts, feels that respiratory or cardiorespiratory arrest is imminent.
- 5) In the event of respiratory or cardiorespiratory arrest and presentation of a valid DNR Confirmation form, the EMA or Paramedic will follow the directions as specified in the DNR Standard.
- 6) If death has been determined upon arrival and the EMA or Paramedic has been presented with a valid DNR Confirmation form, transport will not be initiated.
  - a) Treat the deceased with respect and dignity; be compassionate and try to respect the wishes and needs of family members.
  - b) The family should be encouraged to request the attending physician's presence to pronounce death.
  - c) Notify CACC of the death and existence of a valid DNR Confirmation form.
  - d) If there is an apparently responsible family member or friend willing to assume responsibility, the paramedic may leave the scene as soon as the documentation is completed unless they receive another priority call.
  - e) "Legally or Obviously Dead" persons must not be transported by ambulance except from a public place where no body removal service is readily available. In these circumstances, a coroner may authorize transportation of deceased persons to the nearest morgue when an

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alternate ambulance is readily available to respond to emergency calls as determined by CACC. Public place in this context does not include the premises of a hospital, nursing home or similar institution, nor a private residence

- f) Dead persons must not be transported at the same time as a living patient, except where death is pronounced while enroute to a hospital.
  - g) Complete an Incident Report as per this manual.
- 7) Documentation
- a) No patient documentation completed by the EMA or Paramedic is to be left at any scene. Exception: You may give the receiving facility copy of the completed ACR directly to an attending Coroner. You must note that the Coroner has accepted the patient on the ACR and obtain a receiving facility signature from the Coroner.
  - b) On the Ambulance Call Report (ACR), Document the patient had a valid DNR Confirmation Form, include the Serial Number, detailed findings of the history taking, patient assessment, any other pertinent information or circumstances.
  - c) In addition to the patient documentation required on the ACR, Paramedics/EMAs shall complete an incident report as per this manual.

<b>REFERENCE</b>
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Basic Life Support Patient Care Standards January 2007, ver. 2.0  
 Policy Directive G.3.2 Incident Reports  
 Policy Directive G.4.24 Care and Treatment of VSA Patients