

**SECTION: G-4**

**TITLE: Special Resuscitation Situations**

**REVISED: October 15, 2014**

---

**A. Withholding resuscitation**

In situations requiring CPR (e.g., cardiac arrest), resuscitative efforts may be withheld under the following circumstances:

- Obvious signs of death defined by:
  - Rigor mortis
  - Dependent lividity
  - Injury not compatible with life
  
- In all other situations, full resuscitation efforts shall be initiated **unless** there is:

A DNR order meeting the following criteria:

- Idaho Physician Order for Scope of Treatment (POST) form
- The physical presence of a physician-signed DNR order in the setting of a hospital (e.g., Idaho Elks Rehabilitation Hospital, Treasure Valley Hospital), **or**
- The physical presence of a physician-signed, out-of-state DNR order, **or**
- The physical presence of a valid State of Idaho Comfort One order or photocopy, **or**
- State of Idaho Comfort One identification being worn by the patient, **or**
- A DNR order written prior to July 1, 1994, regardless of format

*See Appendix 26: In-Field Death/POST/Comfort One/DNR Guidelines for further guidance.*

**If there is a question concerning the appropriateness of CPR initiation, begin CPR and contact Medical Control.**

**B. Discontinuation of resuscitation**

In all cases where CPR efforts have been appropriately initiated, Paramedic consultation with the on-line Medical Control physician is required prior to discontinuation. If CPR has been initiated inappropriately as outlined above, personnel may discontinue CPR without on-line Medical Control.

Protocol

G-4

# Special Resuscitation Situations