

SECTION: G-4

TITLE: Special Resuscitation Situations

REVISED: January 26, 2010

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, or
 - 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 T: 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

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