

**Policy:**

Any patient in the pre-hospital setting presenting a completed North Carolina Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) Form (yellow form) shall have the form honored and CPR and ALS therapy withheld in the event of cardiac arrest. The Medical Orders For Scope Of Treatment Form (MOST) shall be honored as directed below.

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Honor the terminal wishes of the patient.
- Prevent the initiation of unwanted resuscitation.

**Procedure:**

1. Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) Form.
  - A. When confronted with a patient or situation involving DNR, the following conditions must be present in order to honor the DNR form and withhold CPR and ALS therapy:
    - Original North Carolina DNR form present (yellow form - not a copy).
    - Effective date and expiration date filled out and current.
    - Form signed by attending physician.
    - Patient in Cardiac Arrest.
  - B. A valid DNR form may be overridden by the request of:
    - The patient.
    - The guardian of the patient.
    - An on-scene physician.
2. A Living Will or other legal document which identifies the patient's desire to withhold CPR or ALS therapy may be honored with the approval of online Medical Control. This should be done when possible with consultation with the patient's family and personal physician.
3. When confronted with a seriously ill patient who is not in cardiac arrest, the MOST form (when present) shall be utilized as follows, (Section B):
  - Full Scope of Treatment is checked: Use all appropriate measures included in System Protocols to stabilize/resuscitate the patient.
  - Limited Scope of Treatment box is checked: The maximum airway intervention is non-rebreather mask and airway suctioning. All appropriate IV medications may be utilized. No electrical therapies are to be provided.
  - Comfort Measures is checked: The maximum airway intervention is a non-rebreather mask and airway suctioning. Intravenous pain medications may be administered. Medical Control may be contacted as needed.