

HEALTH SERVICES POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL

North Carolina Department Of Correction
Division Of Prisons

SECTION: Administrative – Death & Dying

POLICY # AD V-5

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SUBJECT: Revocation of DNR orders

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 2009

SUPERCEDES DATE: May 2004

PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for revocation of DNR orders.

POLICY

DNR orders will be revoked according to a standard procedure

DEFINITIONS

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR): An action taken to revive a person whose heart stops (cardiac arrest), whose breathing stops (respiratory arrest), or whose heart and breathing stop (cardiopulmonary arrest)

Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) order: An order signed by a patient's doctor stating that CPR should not be performed. (Also called a No Code order.)

PROCEDURES

1. The revocation of DNR (Do not Resuscitate) orders occurs:
 - a. Whenever a patient or patient's legal representative requests cancellation of order, by notifying attending physician or requesting nursing staff notify attending physician of such desire.
 - b. Whenever patient's condition changes per attending physician's assessment to indicate CPR is more appropriate.
2. The attending physician will:
 - a. Document reason for revocation of DNR order in the Progress Note
 - b. Write order to "Discontinue Do Not Resuscitate Order".
 - c. Hand order to charge nurse to process.
3. The Charge RN will, after receiving written order:
 - a. Notify staff on duty of change of patient's DNR status and document on written shift report
 - b. Obtain **ALL** yellow DNR order sheets (patient may have more than one if there is an Outpatient, Inpatient and/or Mental Health Record).
 - c. Mark all yellow DNR order sheet(s) with a **bold black "X"** across entire page.
 - d. Record statement of order on yellow DNR order sheets along with date, time and nurse's complete, legible signature)
 - e. Make copies of yellow DNR order sheets after completion of above.
 - f. Place copies into chart
 - g. Destroy original (s) by shredding
 - h. Document above actions in Nurses' progress notes.

Paula Y. Smith, M.D.

4/9/09

Paula Y. Smith, M.D., Director of Health Services Date

SOR: Medical Director