



TITLE:	MEDICAL EMERGENCY NON-RESPONSIVE RESIDENT	POLICY 15.01
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PURPOSE:

For handling non-responsive residents.

SCOPE:

All employees.

POLICY:

All staff will be familiar with policies and procedures in the event of finding a resident not responsive to appropriate stimuli.

PROCEDURE:

1. An unresponsive resident who has stopped breathing and/or whose heart has stopped beating:

- a. **If the resident is a full code:** contact 911 and begin CPR. Continue providing CPR until the ambulance personnel have arrived and relieve you. Present EMS documentation to ambulance personnel. Notify family, health care practitioner, facility administrator, and document in resident's health file.
- b. **If the resident is a no-code:** If there is no registered nurse in the facility, contact 911 and notify the operator that a resident, who has chosen to NOT receive CPR, is unresponsive without respirations or heartbeat. Request that emergency medical staff come to the home immediately. If there is a registered nurse in the facility, notify him/her immediately and follow directions accordingly. Notify family, health care practitioner, facility administrator, and document in the resident's health file.
- c. **If the resident did not make a decision regarding code status:** Contact 911 and initiate CPR. All residents who have not made decisions regarding code status will be treated as if they are full code status. Notify family, health care practitioner, facility administrator, and document in the resident's health file.
- d. **Hospice resident:** Those residents who receive services from hospice programs will NOT receive CPR. Since different hospice



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programs may have different protocols regarding the death of a resident, consult the hospice plan regarding procedures. If this cannot be located, contact 911, the hospice nurse, family, health care practitioner, facility administrator, and document in resident's health file.

Please note that medical emergencies, such as choking, adverse reactions to medications, or other acute concerns must be responded to appropriately with immediate intervention and notification of appropriate staff and/or agencies.

Some jurisdictions require a call to 911 even if the person is obviously dead. The facility should check with the local emergency provider (fire department, etc.) to see what the preferred local option is. Only licensed personnel (physician, ARNP, or RN) can declare a person deceased. If the facility does not have licensed staff, 911 must be called and staff must request that EMS personnel come to the home.

2. An unresponsive resident whose heart is beating and who is breathing:
 - a. DO NOT move the resident; stay with the resident.
 - b. If a licensed nurse is in the facility, contact him/her immediately and follow directions accordingly.
 - c. If a licensed nurse is not available in the facility, contact 911 and report your findings.
 - d. Contact family, health care practitioner, case manager (if applicable) if resident is transferred from the facility.
 - e. Notify the facility nurse and administrator of the occurrence, document in the resident's health file.

EXCEPTIONS:

No exceptions to this policy may be granted without the prior written approval of the Director.

SUPERCEDES:

None



CPR CODE

It is the policy of this facility that if a person is found non-responsive, 911 will be called and we will use our best efforts to resuscitate residents until Emergency Medical Services arrives.

In order for Fire & Rescue personnel to act on a NON CODE or DO NOT RESUSCITATE request there must be either:

- A. A do not resuscitate order from the resident's physician, signed by the physician or
- B. A Washington State EMS NO CPR documentation

Only these directives will enable the EMS personnel to quickly determine that it is appropriate to not initiate resuscitation. All other advanced directives require confirmation and clarification, which cannot be reliably obtained in an emergency.

The Washington State EMS NO CPR directive must be obtained through the resident's physician. Only their physician can validate the directive and issue a NO CPR Wristband.

The physician may obtain these forms by calling 1-800-458-5281 extension 2. Literature explaining the process to the public is also available at this number. The forms must be validated with signatures from the resident/family and the physician.

The NO CPR order may be identified for the resident through documentation in the resident record, or the resident may tape the order to their refrigerator or a wristband may be worn, or any other means the resident chooses.

If the resident is a hospice patient and has a DNR, the hospice nurse in charge of the resident will be notified immediately, so the hospice procedure may be followed.

Sincerely,

General Manager

Date

Resident or Responsible Party

Date