



North Carolina Do Not Resuscitate and MOST Form

Policy:

CPR, BLS and ALS treatment are to be withheld only if the patient is obviously dead (see procedure section) or a valid (*properly completed, signed, dated, and unexpired*) **North Carolina Do Not Resuscitate (DNR)** form and/or **Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment (MOST)** form is present (Disposition Policy 5).

EMS personnel shall also honor a valid **POLST (Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment)**, **POST (Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment)**, **MOST and/or DNR** (*properly completed, signed, dated, and unexpired*) from another state or US military form. NCGS Article 23: 90-320.

Purpose:

- Honor those who have obviously expired prior to EMS arrival.
- To honor the terminal wishes of the patient
- To prevent the initiation of unwanted resuscitation

Procedure:

1. When confronted with a patient or situation involving the NC DNR and/or MOST form(s), the following form content must be verified before honoring the form(s) request.
 - The form(s) must be either an original North Carolina DNR or North Carolina MOST form
 - The effective date and expiration date must be completed and current
 - The DNR and/or MOST Form must be signed by a physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner.
 - Out-of-state or US military form:
 - Must be an original MOST, DNR, POLST (Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment) or POST (Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment).
 - The effective date and expiration date must be completed and current
 - The DNR and/or MOST Form must be signed by a physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner
2. A valid DNR or MOST form may be overridden by the request of (N.C.G.S. 90-21.13):
 - Court appointed guardian
 - Health care power of attorney
 - Spouse
 - Majority of patient's reasonably available parents and/or children who are ≥ 18 years old
 - Majority of patient's reasonably available siblings who are ≥ 18 years old
 - Patient's attending physician
 - EMS personnel should contact **Medical Control** to obtain assistance and direction if clarification is necessary.
3. A living will (other legal document) that identifies the patient's desire to withhold CPR or other medical care may be honored with the approval of **Medical Control**. Ideally, consultation with patient's family and personal physician is suggested as time allows.