



# 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  $\geq 18$  years old
  - Majority of patient's reasonably available siblings who are  $\geq 18$  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.