

Sullivan County Department of Public Health

<p><u>Title:</u> Do Not Resuscitate (DNR)</p> <p><u>Number:</u> DP-05</p> <p><u>Page Number:</u> 1 of 2</p>	<p>Original Approval:</p> <p>Reviewed/ revised:</p>
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Statement/ Purpose:

Statement of purpose for the policy

Authority:

New York State Chapter 370 of the Laws of 1991

Application:

All Certified Home Health Agency Staff

Terminology:

Responsible Party:

Public Health Director

Cross-Reference:

Advanced Directives

Procedure:

1. A non-hospital order not to resuscitate may be issued while a patient is hospitalized, to take effect after hospitalization. It may also be issued for a person who is not in a hospital. In either case, consent may be obtained:
 - a. From the patient, in writing, dated and signed in the presence of at least two witnesses eighteen years of age or older, who must also sign the decision;
 - b. From the patient, orally, to the attending physician alone;
 - c. From the patient during hospitalization, orally in the presence of at least two witnesses eighteen years of age or older, one of whom is a physician affiliated with the hospital which the patient is being treated;
 - d. From a proxy-designated health care agent, orally, to the attending physician alone. For a patient not in the hospital, the attending physician is defined as the one who has primary responsibility for the care and treatment of the patient. If the responsibility is share by more than one physician, any of the physicians can obtain the consent.
2. Effective September 1, 1992, non-hospital DNR orders based on surrogate consent or attending physician determination, may be issued prior to, during or after hospitalization. The attending physician must determine that the patient lacks capacity and that one or more of the following apply:
 - a. The patient has a terminal condition or is permanently unconscious;
 - b. Resuscitation would be medically futile; or
 - c. Resuscitation would impose an extraordinary burden for the patient under his/ her medical circumstances.

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The law requires the attending physician's determination to be concurred in by another licensed physician.

3. Non-hospital DNR orders must be issued on the appropriate Department of Health form.
4. The attending physician must be the one to record the issuance of a non-hospital DNR order in a patient's medical chart, and may not direct a registered nurse to do so.
5. If the attending physician who issues the order, transfers to another physician, then they must also inform the physician of the DNR order.
6. The existence of a non-hospital DNR will be noted on the patient information sheet.
7. Patient's with a non-hospital DNR will have a copy of the order maintained in the clinical record under the patient information sheet.
8. Reviewing non-hospital DNR orders- The attending physician must review the order whenever examining the patient or at least every 90 days. The agency will advise the physician of such review at least every 62 days or with each recertification of physician orders.
9. Revoking non-hospital DNR orders- A patient or other person who has consented to a non-hospital DNR order can revoke consent to the order at any time. Such revocation need not be written. Any act evidencing the intent to revoke will suffice. If a Registered Nurse is informed of the revocation of a non-hospital DNR order, the Registered Nurse must notify the patient's attending physician. The registered nurse will obtain an order from the physician to cancel the DNR and remove the non-hospital DNR from the clinical record. Diligent effort will be made to retrieve any other copies of the form on which the order was issued.