

Withholding Resuscitation

Withholding a Cardiac Arrest Resuscitation Attempt

Signs of death can be subtle, if in doubt or obvious signs of death are not present, consider initiating resuscitation.

Do not begin resuscitation if any of the following indications for withholding resuscitation are present:

1. Goals of Care Designation is present; check for the presence of other End of Life documentation (e.g. valid DNR) and follow accordingly
2. Dependent lividity
3. Cardiac arrest in mass casualty incident (exception is electrocution, refer to Electrocution / Lightning Strike Protocol)
4. Drowning with confirmed submersion time greater than 90 minutes
5. Obvious non-survivable conditions:
 - o Decapitation
 - o Rigor mortis
 - o Incinerated
 - o Eviscerated
 - o Decomposition
 - o Frozen solid

GOALS OF CARE DESIGNATIONS		Chest compressions	Intubate	ICU Admit - Adult	ICU Admit - Pediatric	Surgery	Site Transfer	Symptom control
R Resuscitative Care	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	2	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	3	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
M Medical Care	1	✗	✗	✗		✓	✓	✓
	2	✗	✗	✗	Can consider, if required for symptom control		✓	✓
C Comfort Care	1	✗	✗	✗				✓
	2	✗	✗	✗		✗	✗	✓