## Policy

## Ohio Living skilled nursing and residential care facilities will follow the Ohio do-not-resuscitate protocol or DNR protocol. The DNR protocol is the standardized method of procedure for the withholding of CPR by physicians, APRNs physician assistants, emergency medical service personnel, and health care facilities.

## DNR Comfort Care Protocol

1. DNR Comfort Care: State of Ohio DNR Protocol is activated immediately when a DNR order is issued or when a living will requesting no CPR becomes effective.
   1. For patients for whom a **DNR Comfort Care protocol** is activated, the provider **WILL**:
      1. Conduct an initial assessment
      2. Perform basic medical care
      3. Clear airway of obstruction or suction
      4. If necessary, may administer oxygen, CPAP, or BiPAP
      5. If necessary, may obtain IV access for hydration or pain medication to relieve discomfort, but not to prolong death
      6. If possible, may contact other appropriate health care providers (e.g., hospice, home health, physician/APRN/PA)
   2. For patients for whom a **DNR Comfort Care protocol** is activated, the provider **WILL NOT**:
      1. Perform CPR
      2. Insert artificial airway adjunct
      3. Administer resuscitation medications with the intent of restarting the heart or breathing
      4. Defibrillate, cardiovert, or initiate pacing
      5. Initiate continuous cardiac monitoring
2. DNR Comfort Care – Arrest: These patients will be treated as any other patient **without** a DNR order until the point of cardiac or respiratory arrest at which point all interventions will cease and the **DNR Comfort Care protocol** (above) will be implemented.

## Procedure

1. Patients and residents that wish to enact do-not resuscitate status must have at least one of the following types of DNR identification:
   1. A do-not-resuscitate order documented on the state of Ohio DNR order form
   2. A copy of an individual's living will declaration that includes language that authorizes the withholding or withdrawal of CPR
   3. A transparent hospital-type bracelet with an insert containing the Ohio DNR logo and the individual's identifying information (see “Hospital Type Bracelet form)
   4. A necklace bearing both the Ohio DNR and the person's name. If the person is a "DNR Comfort Care - Arrest" the necklace must also include the word "arrest"
   5. A bracelet bearing both the Ohio DNR logo person's name. If the person is a "DNR Comfort Care - Arrest" the bracelet must also include the word "arrest"
   6. A wallet card bearing the Ohio DNR logo and the individual's identifying information
   7. A printed form of a living will declaration if the declarant specifies on the form that the declarant wishes to use it as DNR identification.
2. A person with DNR identification or a DNR order may revoke his or her DNR status at any time by an oral or written request to receive CPR
   1. If the patient wishes to revoke a DNR order, an order to discontinue the DNR order must be issued
   2. If an authorized health care provider issues an order discontinuing a valid DNR order the authorized health care provider will ask the patient of the facility prior to discharge or transfer whether he or she wishes to make another DNR declaration.
3. If a person who possesses DNR identification or for whom a current do-not-resuscitate order was issued is being transferred from the skilled nursing or residential care facility to another health care facility, before or at the time of the transfer, the transferring health care facility shall:
   1. Notify the receiving health care facility of the existence of the DNR identification or the current do-not-resuscitate order issued
   2. Notify the persons transporting the person, including, emergency medical services, private ambulance services, or other patient transport services, of the existence of the DNR identification or the current do-not-resuscitate order.
   3. If a current do-not-resuscitate order was issued orally, it must be in writing through the completion of a state of Ohio DNR order form before the time of the transfer.
   4. Ohio Living will ensure that one of the following accompany the person with an active DNR to the receiving facility:
      1. An original or paper copy of the person's written state of Ohio DNR order form signed by an authorized provider
      2. Any of the following DNR identifications:
         1. A bracelet or necklace bearing the Ohio DNR logo. The bracelet or necklace must also include the word "arrest" if the person is a DNR comfort care-arrest
         2. A transparent hospital-type bracelet with an insert containing the Ohio DNR logo and required identifying information
         3. A wallet card bearing the Ohio DNR logo and required identifying
         4. A copy of the person's living will declaration that includes language that authorizes the withholding or withdrawal of CPR that has not been revoked.
4. A person's DNR identification shall remain in effect until it is revoked.
5. When a conflict exists between a valid durable power of attorney for health care and a valid living will declaration that is known to be operative, the living will declaration supersedes the authority of the durable power of attorney for health care and the agent or agents named therein.
6. When there is no substantial change in the principal's medical condition as assessed by the principal's authorized health care provider, DNR identification based upon a valid DNR order to which the person consented supersedes the authority of a durable power of attorney for health care and the agent or agents named therein.
7. To the extent that a known conflict exists between DNR identification based upon a previously executed living will declaration and a more recent valid living will declaration the most recent living will declaration supersedes the previous DNR living will declaration.
8. To the extent that a known conflict exists between DNR identification based upon a valid DNR order to which the principal consented and a valid living will declaration, the more recent document supersedes.