



Special Operational Protocol 9102

Cease-Efforts Protocol

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This protocol is designed to be used when in **direct consultation with the Medical Command Physician (MCP)**, the medical decision is made to discontinue resuscitation efforts in the field and proceed to the **Death in the Field Protocol 9101**.

A. **Criteria:** EMS personnel may request orders to cease resuscitation efforts on a patient in the field when any of the following are present:

1. Resuscitation initially started by first responders, family members, etc. is determined to have been medically inappropriate (i.e. terminal cancer or traumatic arrest).
2. Full cycle of ALS treatment has been unsuccessful and patient has been confirmed pulseless and apneic by EMS for at least 20 minutes.
3. Proper "Do Not Resuscitate" documentation has been discovered or clarified by family or power of attorney.
4. BLS resuscitation has proved unsuccessful and no ALS is available for an extended period of time. Patient has been confirmed pulseless and apneic by EMS for at least 20 minutes.
5. Physical exhaustion of available providers to provide care.
6. The scene environment is judged to be unsafe for rescuers to continue resuscitation.
7. Extremely remote areas where evacuation may require hours or days.

B. **Procedure:**

1. EMS personnel will contact Medical Command and speak **directly to the MCP**.
2. Specific history and details of care will be discussed and MCP will make final decision, give final order to cease resuscitation, and note exact date and time.
3. Proceed immediately to **Death in the Field Protocol 9101**.



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C. Exceptions: The following situations may necessitate transport of patients and continued resuscitation efforts **per direct MCP order:**

1. Volatile or potentially dangerous situations where movement of the patient and exit from the scene is required for the safety of the rescuers.
2. Hypothermic patients. Treat per **Cold Exposure Protocol.**
3. Pediatric patients less than 12 years of age.

Special Note: If patient is removed from scene and resuscitation continued, the resuscitation efforts should be continued until arrival at the hospital.