

How to Complete a Durable Do Not Resuscitate Order

Purpose

The Durable Do Not Resuscitate (DDNR) Order and its regulations have been developed to carry out the intent of applicable Virginia law that provides a person the opportunity to execute a DDNR Order that comports with his/her wishes.

Applicability

The DDNR form may be honored by any "qualified health care personnel," which is defined as any qualified emergency medical services personnel and any licensed healthcare provider or practitioner functioning in any facility, program or organization operated or licensed by the State Board of Health, or by the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services or operated, licensed or owned by another state agency, or a licensed health care practitioner at any continuing care retirement community.

Instructions

12VAC5-66-70. Issuance of a Durable DNR Order Form or Other DNR Order.

A Durable DNR Order Form or Other DNR Order may be issued to a patient by a physician, with whom the patient has established a bona fide physician/patient relationship, only with the consent of the patient or, if the patient is a minor or is otherwise incapable of making an informed decision regarding consent for such an order, or upon the request of and with the consent of the person authorized to consent on the patient's behalf.

1. The use of the Virginia Department of Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services (VDH/OEMS) authorized Durable DNR Order Form is encouraged to provide uniformity throughout the health care continuum.
2. The authorized Durable DNR Order Form can be honored by qualified health care personnel in any setting.
3. Patients that are not within a qualified health care facility must have an authorized Durable DNR Order Form (State Form) or alternate DDNR jewelry in order for the DDNR Order to be honored.
4. Other DNR Orders can be honored any time when a patient is within a qualified health care facility or during transfer between qualified health care facilities when the patient remains attended by qualified health care personnel.

5. The physician shall explain to the patient or the person authorized to consent on the patient's behalf, the alternatives available for response in the event of cardiac or respiratory arrest. If the option of a Durable DNR Order is agreed upon, the physician shall have the following responsibilities:
 - a. Explain when the Durable DNR Order can be followed.
 - b. Explain how to and who may revoke the Durable DNR.
 - c. Document the patient's full legal name.
 - d. Document the execution date of the Durable DNR Order.
 - e. Obtain the signature of the patient or the person authorized to consent on the patient's behalf on all three forms; the patient's copy, medical record copy, and the copy used for obtaining DNR Jewelry.
 - f. The physician name should be clearly printed and the form signed.
 - g. Note the contact telephone number for the issuing physician.
 - h. Issue the original Durable DNR Order Form; Copy 1 is to be kept by the patient, Copy 2 is to be placed in the patient's medical record, and Copy 3 is kept by the patient to order DDNR Jewelry. All three copies may be honored by qualified health care personnel whether it is an original or photocopy..
 - i. The person to whom a Durable DNR order applies or the person authorized to consent on the patient's behalf must present the following information to the approved vendor in order to purchase and be issued an approved Alternate Durable DNR necklace or bracelet. The necklace or bracelet must contain the following information:
 - i. The following words: Do Not Resuscitate;
 - ii. The patient's full legal name;
 - iii. The physician's name and phone number; and
 - iv. The Virginia Durable DNR issuance date.

Revocation

Revocation of a Durable DNR Order - A Durable DNR Order may be revoked at any time by the patient or an authorized decision maker if the decision maker initiated the DDNR Order (i) by physically destroying the Durable DNR Order Form or having another person in his/her presence and at his/her direction destroy the Durable DNR Order Form and/or any alternate form of identification; or (ii) by oral expression of intent to revoke. If an Other DNR Order exists and is revoked, health care personnel should assure the revocation is honored by updating or destroying the Other DNR Order.

More information can be found on-line at <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/OEMS/DDNR/index.htm>