



Policy:

Any patient presenting to any component (BLS or ALS) of the EMS system with a valid (*properly completed, signed, dated, and unexpired*) **North Carolina Do Not Resuscitate (DNR)** form and/ or **MOST (Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment)** form shall have the form honored. EMS personnel shall also honor a valid MOST and/or DNR form from a bordering state including Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia, and South Carolina. Treatment will be limited as documented on the DNR or MOST form.

Purpose:

- Honor those who have obviously expired prior to EMS arrival.
- To honor the terminal wishes of the patient
- To prevent the initiation of unwanted resuscitation

Procedure:

1. When confronted with a patient or situation involving the NC DNR and/or MOST form(s), the following form content must be verified before honoring the form(s) request.

- The form(s) must be either an original North Carolina DNR or North Carolina MOST form
- The effective date and expiration date must be completed and current
- The DNR and/or MOST Form must be signed by a physician, physician’s assistant, or nurse practitioner.

MOST Form Bordering State Equivalents	MOST	DNR
Georgia	POLST	DNR
Virginia	POST	DNR
Tennessee	POST	DNR
South Carolina	POST	DNR

POST = Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment
POLST = Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment

2. A valid DNR or MOST form may be overridden by the request of (N.C.G.S. 90-21.13):
- Court appointed guardian
 - Health care power of attorney
 - Spouse
 - Majority of patient’s reasonably available parents and/or children who are ≥ 18 years old
 - Majority of patient’s reasonably available siblings who are ≥ 18 years old
 - Patient’s attending physician

EMS personnel should contact **Medical Control** to obtain assistance and direction if clarification is necessary.

3. A living will or other legal document that identifies the patient’s desire to withhold CPR or other medical care may be honored with the approval of **Medical Control**. This should be done when possible in consultation with the patient’s family and if time allows, their personal physician.