

THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY, INC.

TERMINATION OF RESUSCITATION (TOR) GUIDELINES

Termination of Resuscitation shall be considered for cardiac arrests with all of the following criteria:

Patient Characteristics

- Age \geq 18 years old
- Arrest etiology is non-traumatic or is not due to any of the following:
 - Drowning
 - Hypothermia
 - Suspected pregnancy
 - Lightning injury/electrocution
 - Suspected overdose
 - Hanging/asphyxia

Resuscitation Components

- Unwitnessed arrest without bystander CPR
- At least 30 minutes of EMS resuscitation time, including at least ALS resuscitative care for 20 minutes
- No return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC) during resuscitation at any time
- No defibrillation is performed during resuscitation at any time
- Rhythm remains in asystole or PEA (rate < 40) throughout resuscitation
- Arrest does not take place in a public area

Important Exceptions to TOR Guidelines

1. Resuscitation attempts should be immediately terminated upon presentation of a valid DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) order. TOR criteria do **not** need to be met to halt resuscitation when a patient's DNR status is identified. The following DNR orders may be accepted by prehospital providers (other DNR orders **cannot** be honored in the prehospital setting):
 - a. New York State Department of Health (DOH) Out-of-Hospital DNR form or DNR bracelet.
 - b. MOLST (Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment) form indicating DNR status.
 - c. Physician's DNR order in the medical chart when the patient is in the medical care facility under the physician's care.