

DEAD ON SCENE STANDING ORDER

INCLUSION

Pulseless and apneic

EXCLUSION

Hypothermia, lightning strikes

Does patient have condition incompatible with life?

Decapitated
Decomposed
Extrusion of brain matter
Removal of lower half of body

Rigor mortis
Burned beyond recognition
Absent signs of life with **VALID DNR**

Yes

Orders

May withdraw or withhold resuscitative efforts

Assess Cause of Cardiac Arrest

Non-traumatic Cardiac Arrest

All the following criteria must be met for each category:

Un-witnessed arrest: Prolonged downtime (>30 min) is likely, PEA/Asystole or non-shockable rhythm noted on AED, and no pulse for 60 seconds.

OR

Witnessed Arrest: 20 minutes of resuscitation with: PEA and EtCO₂ < 10 mmHg **OR** Asystole or non-shockable rhythm noted on AED.

Traumatic Cardiac arrest

Orders

If airway obstruction or tension pneumothorax:
Consider OPA/NPA and bilateral needle thoracostomy

Penetrating Trauma

If continued pulseless
AND
Time to Level I Trauma Center > 15 min

Blunt Trauma

If continued pulseless

Orders

May withdraw or withhold resuscitative efforts

Special note:

If asked for a time of death please provide the TIME at which resuscitation was withheld/withdrawn.