



Clinical Notice

No. 17 / 2015

**URGENT
For Information**

All Wales Do Not Attempt Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (DNACPR) Policy and Form for Adults aged 18 years and over - UPDATE

In February 2015, Clinical Notice 07/2015 was issued in relation to a new all Wales DNACPR policy and form (*Sharing and Involving*) which was launched on 1 February 2015. This is currently being rolled out across all Health Boards in Wales with full implementation across all healthcare settings in Wales planned for 1st August 2015.

All DNACPR decisions made after 1st August 2015 will be documented on the new all Wales DNACPR form. However, it is not feasible for existing DNACPR forms to be re-written by 1st August 2015 e.g. DNACPR - Community and Health Board specific forms.

Existing DNACPR forms are, and will continue to be in use throughout Wales, this will be less frequent as the roll out continues. There is also the possibility that you may be presented with DNACPR forms produced by Health Care Professionals from outside of Wales. All of these forms, if appropriately completed are valid.

There are a number of points to remember when presented with a DNACPR form:

- Irrespective of the format, a DNACPR form that is correctly completed is valid. It is not your responsibility to confirm the details on the form, e.g. signatures (other than the identity of the patient). In an emergency situation if the validity of the form is in question, commencing CPR may be the only appropriate course of action.
- DNACPR forms are neither site specific nor time dependent and in general, unless clearly specified they will not require reviewing or renewing. When appropriately completed they remain valid until a decision to review or cancel the form has been made.
- Even if original DNACPR forms are produced in colour, B&W or photocopies are acceptable as long as they are correctly completed.

When the DNACPR has been deemed valid, document relevant information on the PCR e.g. the name of the HCP authorising the form, GMC number and the date it was signed. There is no requirement for a copy of the DNACPR form to be retained by WAST staff.

DNACPR refers solely to the provision of Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation in the event of cardiac or respiratory arrest and **not** to any other aspect of the individuals care or treatment options. Information relating to individual care or treatment options may be contained in an Advanced Care Plan, Advance Decision to Refuse Treatment or a Preferred Priorities for Care document.

Other forms of communicating DNACPR decisions may still exist e.g. for children, young adults and for patients from outside of Wales.

There are occasions when we receive calls for patients with a current DNACPR whose condition has deteriorated. Following supportive treatment (e.g. basic airway management), staff are encouraged to make contact with other healthcare professionals involved in the care of the patient with a view to enabling them to remain at their home or community setting.

The policy and supporting information is available on the Trust's Intranet; Support Services – Clinical Effectiveness – CE Related Documents and Links.

If you require any further information then please contact a Clinical Team Leader / Supervisor, Locality Manager, Clinical Support Officer, Learning and Development Manager or Advanced Paramedic Practitioner.

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Issue date: 17th July 2015

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This notice is to be displayed in staff areas for a minimum of one month and then filed appropriately for ease of reference. It will also be available on the Trust's Intranet.