



**REGION 11
CHICAGO EMS SYSTEM
POLICY**

Title: Termination of Resuscitation
Section: Patient Care
Approved: EMS Medical Directors Consortium
Effective: August 1, 2018

TERMINATION OF RESUSCITATION

- I. Termination of Resuscitation may be considered in the following circumstances:
 - A. Adult patient in cardiac arrest
 1. Excludes traumatic arrest
 2. Excludes hypothermia
 3. No other reversible cause of cardiac arrest identified
 - B. Initial rhythm is asystole or pulseless electrical activity (PEA)
 1. Confirmed in two different leads
 - C. IV or IO access is established
 1. Epinephrine 1 mg IV every 3-5 minutes
 2. 5 total doses of Epinephrine have been administered
 - D. Advanced airway established
 1. Supraglottic airway or endotracheal tube
 - E. ETCO2 capnography attached with number and waveform reading
- II. If all of the above criteria are met:
 - A. Contact Medical Control
 - B. Request termination of resuscitative measures from ECP or ECRN.
 - C. If order for termination approved, terminate resuscitation
 - D. If order for termination not approved, continue resuscitation and plan for transport as per discussion with ECP or ECRN.
- III. If the order for termination is approved and the deceased is in ***a home or private residence***:
 - A. Notify family members of death and provide grief counseling as appropriate
 - B. Contact Chicago Police Department (if not already present on scene)



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- C. Give relevant information to the police officer on scene
 - D. Police will assume custody of body and arrange body aftercare with either the Cook County Medical Examiner or with the family and a private funeral home.
- IV. If the order for termination is approved and the deceased is in **a public place or unsafe scene, CPD should be called to take custody of the body.** In the rare circumstance where transport is needed, transport the patient to the closest comprehensive emergency department. The base station should notify the receiving hospital that they are receiving a patient whose resuscitation was terminated in the field.
- V. If the order for termination is approved and the deceased is **in a healthcare facility** (i.e. nursing home, hospice, rehabilitation hospital), no transport is required and body aftercare will be assumed by the facility.