

# POLICY MANUAL

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**Subject:** Cardiopulmonary Arrest

**Effective Date:** 6/20/90

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**Initiated By:** Norma Cartwright  
Nursing Manager

**Approved By:** William C. Anderson  
Chief Medical Office

**Review Dates:** 4/96, 07/10 RT/Committee/NC  
8/11 RT, 12/13 RT, 11/14 RT/NC

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## POLICY:

Nursing staff and first responders are certified to provide CPR skills and licensed to give emergency drugs as ordered in the event of an arrest. CPR will be initiated on all such persons with the exception of a person who has provided the physician and staff with a copy of an advance medical directive that includes a "Do Not Resuscitate" Order, specifying "no CPR." See related policies: [Advance Medical Directives](#), [Code Blue](#), and [Automatic External Defibrillation](#).

## PROCEDURE:

1. When it is ascertained that a patient, staff member or visitor is not breathing and has no pulse, CPR is initiated by Nursing Staff and other staff members that are trained, and continued until relieved by paramedics or physician orders are given for CPR cessation.
2. The physician is notified.
3. Ambulance notified via 911.
4. Automatic external defibrillation is performed as needed. Emergency drugs are given as ordered by the physician.
5. A record of all of the above activity is kept on the [Resuscitation Record Form](#).
6. A verbal report is given to EMS personnel as well as to the receiving hospital, in addition to a copy of the Resuscitation Record. The Resuscitation Record is scanned into the patient record.
7. The patient's emergency contact is notified as soon as possible.
8. The Medical Director, Director of Nursing and the Associate Director are notified and shall review events as soon as possible.