Establish unresponsiveness; confirm absence of pulse and respirations

Is patient wearing a Wisconsin DNR bracelet?

Yes

Cease resuscitation attempt

No

Does patient have a written DNR or POLST order?

Yes

Valid DNR or POLST order?

Yes

Begin resuscitation attempt for all questionable DNR situations.

No

Cease resuscitation attempt

Consult medical control to consider need for further resuscitation

NOTES:

- POLST – Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment
- A "medic alert" bracelet qualifies as a DNR order for all EMS providers
- A patient's guardian may override the DNR order. For these situations, begin resuscitation efforts and consult medical control for further orders.
- EMS providers may not accept verbal orders from a private physician who is not physically present at the scene. Input from the private physician is welcomed, but should be communicated directly to medical control. The EMS team should facilitate the communication between those physicians.
- An on-scene physician accepting responsibility for the care of the patient must write, sign and date a "Do-Not-Resuscitate" order on the EMS run report.
- Modification of or withholding medical care based on a "Living Will" or "Medical/Health Care Power of Attorney" or other document must be approved by medical control. Appropriate medical care will be provided to the patient while a direct order from medical control is obtained.