

Middlesex Hospital Alliance Connecting with the Future of Care

www.mhalliance.on.ca

Patient Education Guide Resuscitation What does this mean?

Hospitals in Ontario are asking **all patients** to make decisions on resuscitation or end of life care. Some people will want everything done to keep them alive. However, other people may not want anything done to prolong their life.

Below are questions and answers that may help you to understand what is meant by resuscitation.

WHAT IS RESUSCITATION?

This means that if your heart stops and you stop breathing we will do chest compressions, give an electric shock to your heart, give you IV medications and put a breathing tube in to make you breathe. Sometimes a ventilator is needed for a short time to keep you breathing.

WHAT DOES 'NO RESUSCITATION' (DNR) MEAN?

It means that if your heart stops we will not do any of the things listed under "What is Resuscitation".

IF I CHOOSE 'NO RESUSCITATION' HOW WILL I BE TREATED?

This means that we will continue to treat your medical problems, keep you comfortable and treat any new condition that can be treated without doing the above procedures (i.e. chest compressions etc). Treatment choices will be discussed with you.

WHERE WILL THIS FORM BE KEPT?

This form will be kept on your hospital chart

WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND?

If you change your mind please speak to your health care provider. The form you have on your chart will need to be changed or replaced as soon as possible

WHO SHOULD I DISCUSS MY DNR WISHES WITH?

If you have any questions about making a decision you should discuss this with your physician.

Once you have made a decision not to have resuscitation, you should make your wishes known by talking with your family or significant other and let them know your decision.