



NOT FOR RESUSCITATION POLICY

ID No: FBCNW – 16 – 231

Version: 3.0

Applies to: All Staff

Applicable Standards:

- DHHS Quality and Safety Standards - Quality and Safety Framework for Tasmania's DHHS Funded Community Sector V1.2 2016
- DHHS Consumer Related Reportable Incident Policy
- Department of Social Services Charter of Care Recipients Rights and Responsibilities
- FBC Policy – Risk Management
- Aged Care Quality Standards

Applicable Legislation:
Contractual Obligations:

- Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (Tas)

The purpose of this Policy is to provide guidance to staff with respect to Client made "Not For Resuscitation" orders or directives when Family Based Care Tasmania (FBC) staff encounter a situation where a client stops breathing or is found not to be breathing.

Definition:

Not for Resuscitation: *"Not-for-resuscitation" (NFR) orders are a necessary aspect of current medical practice in Australia. They are implemented to prevent the use of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in situations when it is deemed futile or unwanted. The term CPR refers to a range of resuscitative efforts, including basic and advanced cardiac life support to reverse a cardiac or pulmonary arrest."*

Background:

Some clients may have decided that they do not wish to have extreme measures applied to them in the event they collapse and stop breathing and may have established a "Not For Resuscitation" order or directive.

While staff may be aware of the client's wishes the decision not to resuscitate is a medical decision and employees are not qualified to decide whether an event meets the client's wishes.

Nothing in this Policy denies the right of the individual to choose not to be resuscitated and to issue instructions to that end however staff will not be bound by those instructions for the following reasons:

- There is no legal protection for those failing to take reasonable action to protect life in Tasmania (ie to do nothing might be illegal).
- In accordance with the Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Family Based Care Tasmania cannot instruct an employee not to take reasonable action to protect life.
- To resuscitate against a consumer's wish is not actionable whereas to comply with the consumer's wish might be actionable. FBC acts prudently as well as within the law.

Policy Statement:

In cases where a client has asked not to be resuscitated or requests conditions that place resuscitation at risk Family Based Care employees will not comply with such requests.

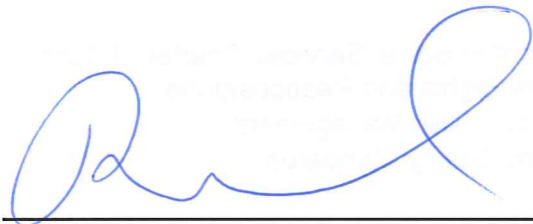
Employees may:

- Use their first aid training, and attempt to resuscitate the client.

Employees must:

- Call the appropriate emergency service for help.
- Contact your Manager or the OnCall Coordinator as soon as practicable.

Authorised
by:



President of the Board

Date:

6/5/19.