

END OF LIFE COMFORT MEASURES

Revised 11/2010

When a patient with a terminal condition has not yet died and has a properly executed EMS/DNR Statute, Bracelet and/or POLST (Physician Order for Life-Sustaining Treatment) form (blue), contact medical control for orders for **comfort measures**. Relay the physician's orders as listed on the POLST form.

- 1) Assess patient vitals and condition
- 2) **Contact Medical Control**
- 3) Medical Control Options:
 - a) Airway: Shortness of breath –
 - i) Oxygen
 - ii) Wheezing - administer Albuterol
 - iii) Rales - administer Nitroglycerin and Morphine
 - iv) Consider CPAP
 - v) Suction intubated patients
 - b) Chest pain
 - i) Oxygen
 - ii) Nitroglycerin
 - iii) Morphine
 - c) Other pain
 - i) Morphine
 - ii) Fentanyl
 - d) Weakness, nausea, dehydration, volume depletion
 - i) Intravenous fluids
 - ii) Ondansetron
 - iii) Dextrose
 - iv) Oral Glucose
 - e) Transport to hospital or care facility if designated on the POLST form, or the patient may be left at the current location if transport is not desired.