

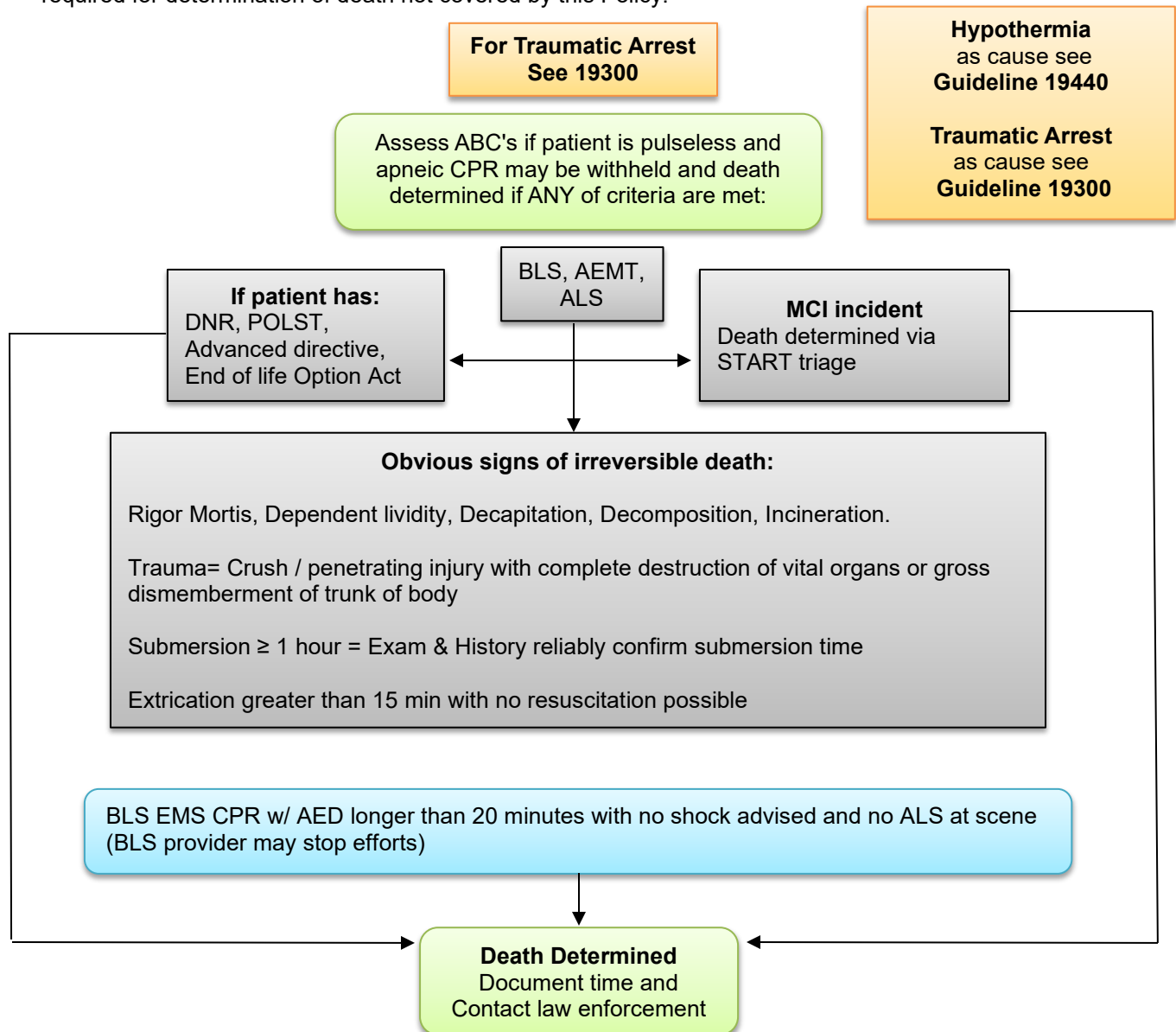
NOR-CAL EMS	19180	AEMT Determination of Death
Nor-Cal EMS Policy & Procedure Manual	Treatment Guidelines	
Effective Date: 5/1/2025	Next Revision: 5/1/2025	
Approval: Jeffrey Kepple MD – MEDICAL DIRECTOR	SIGNATURE ON FILE	

Purpose

To establish criteria for determination of death by prehospital personnel.

Policy

Prehospital providers do not pronounce death but rather determine death based on pre-determined criteria outlined below. An assessment by ALS personnel and consultation with the Base Hospital Physician is required for determination of death not covered by this Policy.



Family interaction

DNR Not present- Resuscitation maybe withheld or stopped if family who is present and can be identified as an immediate family member or spouse and with full agreement of any other persons who are present at scene, requests no resuscitation.

Any objection or disagreement by family regarding terminating or withholding resuscitative effort- BLS efforts including CPR/AED shall continue or begin immediately and Physician contact should then be made for further direction.

Below is for
AEMT, ALS PERSONNEL ONLY

For Presumed MEDICAL Arrest:

All **MUST** be present-

No Shock Advised on AED
Event not witnessed
Effective bystander CPR not initiated
Presumed downtime greater than 20 minutes
Absence of potentially reversible cause
No shocks delivered PTA

ALL PRESENT

For Presumed TRAUMATIC Arrest:

See 19300

Death Determined
Document time and
Contact law enforcement

If Determination of Death cannot be made

Perform AEMT resuscitation for 20 minutes:
See Treatment Guideline 19110/19120

After 20 minutes of ALS resuscitation ROSC has not been obtained:

Resuscitation maybe discontinued with: Asystole or PEA
and
 $\text{ETCo}_2 \leq 10\text{mm/Hg}$

If V-Fib / V-Tach or $\text{ETCo}_2 \geq 10\text{mm/Hg}$

Preform ALS resuscitation for an additional 10 minutes (30 min Total):

At which point resuscitation may be discontinued and determination of death made if ROSC has not occurred and ETCo_2 is less than 10mm/Hg.

Physician Consult Required

- Evidence exists that resuscitative efforts are not desired or appropriate and above criteria is not met.
- $\text{ETCO}_2 > 10\text{mm/Hg}$ after 30 minutes of resuscitation efforts
- **Do not transport with CPR in progress-** allowed only by Physician contact or if Hypothermia exists (See 1944)