

STATE OF COLORADO

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Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

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Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

May 5, 2009

TO: Colorado Medical Community

FROM: D. Randy Kuykendall, Chief
 Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Section
 Health Facilities and EMS Division

SUBJECT: Seeking Input on Proposed Revisions to CPR Directive Rules

Attached is a draft copy of proposed revisions to rules pertaining to the implementation of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) directives by emergency medical service personnel. This draft is the product of a year-long effort of work by a taskforce of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, comprising representatives from the department's Emergency Medical & Trauma Services Section, EMS field personnel, medical directors, attorneys, coroners, members of the Colorado Advance Directives Consortium and the Colorado Center for Hospice & Palliative Care. At this point, the draft is being widely circulated amongst the Colorado medical community with the goal of soliciting public input for the finalization of the rules and eventual promulgation by the State Board of Health. The proposed rules are also on our website at [www.coems.info/Advance directives](http://www.coems.info/Advance_directives).

The goal of the taskforce was to develop a more accessible and user friendly methodology for patients to express their wishes about emergency resuscitation in the out-of-hospital environment. In parallel with this concept, the Colorado Emergency Medical Services community is committed to working to ensure clear and accurate interpretation of these instructions to see that the wishes of patients are respected at all times. Please take a few minutes to review the attached draft and we hope that it will be shared with any individual or agency involved with the process of helping patients understand the steps that can be taken to ensure appropriate emergency care and transportation.

We hope to move these rules forward over the next few months, and we would appreciate comments, feedback and/or questions from across the state. To provide input on the proposed rules or to submit a question for response, please send an email to cdphe.hfemsd-emsProjectsInput@state.co.us. This process of community input will be available through July 1, 2009, at which time the taskforce will review all of the comments and make final edits to the draft. We anticipate that these rules may be forwarded to the Board of Health for consideration sometime in the fall of this year.

Thank you for your interest in this important process and we look forward to receiving your feedback.

Attachments