



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
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
Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

Developmental Disabilities Administration

Bernard Simons, Deputy Secretary for Developmental Disabilities

Educational Alert

To: DDA Licensed Service Providers and All Concerned

From: Bernard Simons, Deputy Secretary for Developmental Disabilities, 
Developmental Disabilities Administration
Patricia Tomsko Nay, MD, Executive Director, Office of Health Care Quality


Date: October 17, 2014

Re: **Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)**

The purpose of this Educational Alert is to review the requirements in COMAR 10.22.02.11D (4) that all staff must be trained in “first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), based on the guidelines of the American Red Cross or another nationally recognized organization” within 3 months of hire. Please note that it is strongly recommended that training include a hands-on demonstration of CPR.

Staff must perform CPR on all individuals that are pulseless and/or breathless unless there is a do not resuscitate (DNR) order stating not to perform CPR in accordance with COMAR 10.22.04.02A (1). Individuals in DDA funded services have the right to receive health care services that respond to the individual's needs and are consistent with those of the general population.

The presence of a DNR order does not mean that other interventions should not be done in situations other than cardiac or pulmonary arrest. For example, an individual with a DNR order who is choking should receive the Heimlich maneuver.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. If you have questions regarding this alert, please contact Janet Furman, Statewide Quality Assurance Chief of DDA, at 410-767-5929 or Nancy Hatch, State Coordinator of Quality Monitoring, at 410-767-5431.

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