Emergency Medical Care

If a health care provider finds evidence that a patient is enrolled in the Comfort One Program and confirms the patient's identity, the health care provider will not start CPR. If CPR was begun before it is determined that the patient is enrolled in the Program, CPR will be stopped.

If the health care provider is unable to confirm that the patient is enrolled in the Comfort One Program, he or she will provide emergency medical care, including CPR, according to normal guidelines.

The Alaska Comfort One protocol does not affect the provision of medical care other than CPR.

A person may revoke his or her status as a Comfort One patient at any time. For example, the person enrolled in the Comfort One Program may destroy the wallet card and form, and discard the optional Comfort One bracelet. The patient should notify his or her physician that such actions have been taken, to avoid any confusion in the event the health care providers contact the physician for advice. Patients who are receiving care from Hospice organizations or from other health care providers should notify these personnel of the revocation as well. In addition, the patient may communicate the intent to revoke the Comfort One status directly to the health care provider.

Other Related Programs

Some emergency medical service agencies and fire departments in Alaska have programs which can provide additional services to those enrolled in the Comfort One Program. In most circumstances, these programs inform law enforcement, medical, and other key personnel of an expected home death, to provide for the least intrusive response. People interested in these types of services should ask their physicians to contact the local fire department or ambulance service for additional information.

For more information about the Alaska Comfort One Program, contact the Alaska Section of Emergency Programs, EMS Unit at (907) 465-8741 or visit the website at http://www.ems.alaska.gov/EMS/Programs/Comfort_One.htm

Comfort One forms are provided to physicians by:

Southern Region EMS Council, Inc.
6130 Tuttle Place
Anchorage, AK 99507-2041
(907) 562-6449/FAX: (907) 562-9893

Interior Region EMS Council, Inc.
2503 18th Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99709
(907) 456-3978/FAX: (907) 456-3970

Southeast Region EMS Council, Inc.
100 Clothilde Bahovec Way
Sitka, AK 99835
(907) 747-8005/FAX:(907) 747-1406

A patient who is enrolled in the Comfort One Program can purchase a Comfort One bracelet from the physician or from one of the Regional EMS Councils.

Revised 8/14

The Alaska Comfort One Program

Information for Patients and Families

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
Division of Public Health
Section of Emergency Programs
EMS Unit
P.O. Box 110616
Juneau, AK 99811-0616
(907) 465-8741/FAX: (907) 465-4101

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