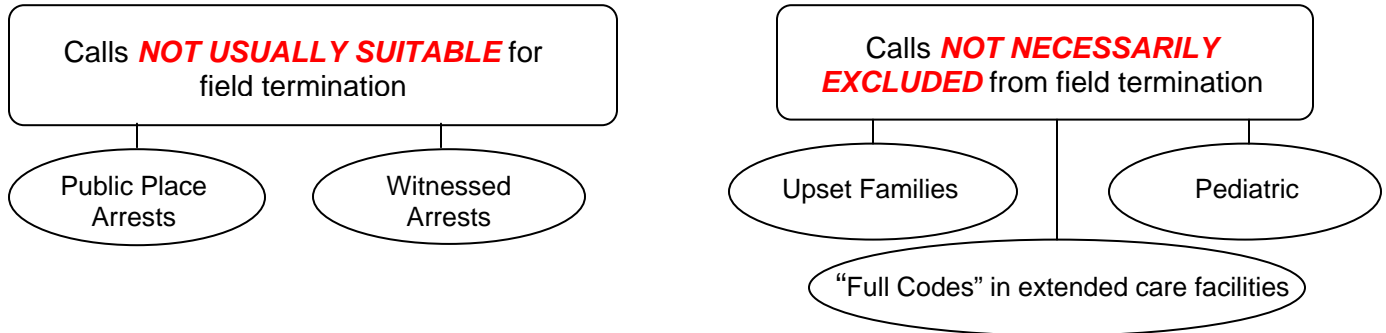


Termination of Resuscitation

To terminate an arrest, there must be an indisputable belief that nothing else can be done

- You have come to this conclusion
- The online physician has come to this conclusion

Considerations for Termination



Important Points

- ✓ 25 minutes of resuscitation is only a guide to **starting** the cardiac arrest.
- ✓ 25 minutes of resuscitation does not automatically qualify for the 25 minutes for termination.
- ✓ A potential crime scene is not a reason to withhold or terminate resuscitation.
- ✓ If code 12 criteria is found during the resuscitation, immediately apply that standing order guideline.
- ✓ Obtaining a physician order for a termination does **not** relieve you of the responsibility for the medical appropriateness of the action.
- ✓ You can contact the EMS Medical Director at any time for unusual circumstances, i.e: lost paperwork, family wishes, need for extended physician interaction, etc.

Helpful Phrases when Speaking to Families

"I spoke with the ER doctor. We have done everything that can be done. There is nothing else that can be done at the hospital. He/she is dead. The ER doctor wants us to stop. He/she is not going to survive this. If this was my family member, I would stop."

Process:

1. Medical Examiner Special Investigator (MESI) will come to the scene and either clear the body for the funeral home or order an investigation.
2. Do not alter the body in any way, or remove anything, until you get clearance from the MESI.
3. You may cover the body. Move bodies only under exceptional circumstances.
4. Tell the family that the police will come and talk to them and explain what they will do.
5. Do not leave the scene until law enforcement arrives.