



## **Family Witnessed Resuscitation for Medical Arrests**

### ***Situation***

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2015, the Adult Emergency Department will implement Family Witnessed Resuscitation (FWR).

### ***Background***

In order to help facilitate the process of grieving during an arrest, this requires a multidisciplinary approach to allow for a smoother transition between care of a patient and care for the family.

### ***Assessment***

After researching the literature, holding multiple multidisciplinary meetings, and disseminating and vetting this new process throughout disciplines and those affected we are ready to implement this process starting 1<sup>st</sup> November 2015.

### ***Recommendation***

Please review the FWR flow sheet process.

The disciplines whose process will be changed is the following:

**Security:** After an overhead call of an arrest, if any patient's family come through the ambo bay – they are to be intercepted and delayed in the Ambo Chair area located in the hallway wall near the ambo emergency service coordinator. The ESC Supervisor and or Social worker will be notified of their presence. Please note delta trauma/trauma arrests have STRICT visitor restrictions.

**Ambo ESC:** Security during this time will place the patient into the FWR holding area, alert SW, or in absence of SW the ESC coordinator, to screen the patient for FWR red flag assessment.

**ESC Coordinator:** In situations where SW is not present or unavailable, you are to be present with the family (follow FWR red flag guidelines and flow sheet for process or screening, alerting, and escorting patient's family to Critical Care.

**Providers:** During an arrest, the SW/ESC coordinator will notify providers that patient does meet FWR guidelines and is appropriate for FWR. The provider will make the decision to activate FWR depending on the situation of the arrest.

**AED Staff:** FWR does not alter your roles during this time. It is of vital importance to emphasize that unless you are directly a part of the patient's care team, please do not crowd the critical care area. Please promote a quiet and distraction free zone to assist in a family's closure with their loved ones.