Donor Referral Protocol

DEFINITIONS:
ALS Advance Life Support
A/S/R Age, Sex, Race
BLS Basic Life Support
CME County Medical Examiner
CMS Center Medicare Services
DOB Date of Birth
EMS Emergency Medical Services
HIPAA Health Information Portability Accountability Act
IDN Iowa Donor Network
LTKA Last Time Known Alive
ME Medical Examiner
MEI Medical Examiner Investigator
MOI Mechanism of Injury
NOI Nature of Illness
NOK Next of Kin
OOH Out of Hospital
PCR Patient Care Report
TOD Time of Death

COLLABORATING PURPOSE:
OOH Agencies all play a crucial role in the tissue and eye donation process. IDN is committed to working with each agency to ensure that the opportunity of tissue and eye donation is made available to all Iowans.

GUIDELINES:
• IDN is HIPAA Exempt. Healthcare providers are protected by HIPAA Section 164.512, “To disclose protected health information for the purpose of facilitating organ, tissue, or eye donation and transplantation”.
• Appendix J of the Iowa Bureau of EMS Protocol: Directed by the “guidelines for EMS provider initiating organ and tissue donation at the scene of the deceased” making referral calls to IDN is included as part of patient care protocol.

SCENE DEATH POLICY:
It is the policy of the EMT/Paramedic to refer all out of hospital deaths. This includes scene deaths, hospice deaths, care facility deaths regardless of age, LTKA, TOD, MOI, NOI, and/or NOK decision regarding donation.

HOSPITAL DEATH POLICY:
In the event that a patient is transported to a local hospital and death occurs, CMS mandates that ER and acute hospital deaths be reported to IDN by the hospital. If the paramedics provided care within the last hour of the patient’s death, it is the role of the EMT/Paramedic to collaborate with IDN regarding the referral and potential donation processes.
Donor Referral Protocol

1. Follow Initial Patient Care Protocol

2. Follow Apparent Death Protocol/Discontinuation of Resuscitation Protocol
   Contact county Medical Examiner & law enforcement per protocol.

3. Scene Death Procedures
   Patient death pronounced on scene.

4. Referral Call to IDN (1-800-831-4131)
   Initial referral call is initiated from the scene to IDN reporting the following information, if known:
   - Your name, agency, scene location, and call back number
   - Decedent’s name, DOB, and A/S/R
   - Decedent’s known medical conditions and current medications
   - Medical interventions provided
   - Decedent’s TOD or LTKA
   - Decedent’s NOK information
   - Whether the ME has jurisdiction
   - Funeral Home name

5. Communicate with the CME/MEI & local funeral home:
   Upon the arrival of the CME/MEI and/or the local funeral home making the body removal provide them with the following information:
   - The initial death referral has been made to IDN.
   - Whether the decedent is ruled out for donation or is a potential donor.

6. Fax the PCR to IDN:
   Upon request from IDN, a copy of the completed PCR will be faxed to IDN.
   IDN will provide a confidential fax number.