

ANATOMICAL GIFT/ DONOR CARD SEARCH

ALWAYS USE BODY SUBSTANCE ISOLATION PRECAUTIONS

INDICATION

- Conducting a “reasonable search” on an unconscious adult patient for whom it appears death is imminent for the purpose of locating documents to identify organ donation requests.

CRITICAL INFORMATION

- This procedure shall be secondary to the requirement that ambulance or emergency personnel provide emergency services to the patient.

TREATMENT/PROCEDURE

- Conduct the search in the presence of a witness not involved in the search, preferably a law enforcement officer.
- If the individual is declared or pronounced dead in the field the coroner or law enforcement officer should perform the search instead of pre-hospital personnel.
- If pre-hospital personnel searched the patient before arrival of the law enforcement/ coroner, notification of such search must be disclosed when law enforcement and/or coroner arrive at the scene.
- Documentation of donor status must remain with the patient.
- Notify the receiving hospital if documentation of donor status is located.

DOCUMENTATION- ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

- Identification of witness involved in search

RELATED POLICIES/ PROCEDURES

- Title 22 Health & Safety Code 7150.55 (a,b,c)