

# DNACPR Checklist:

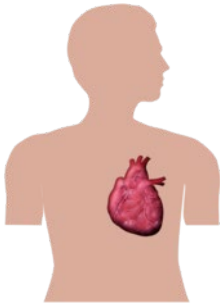


Some people with disabilities have had a **Do Not Attempt Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation Orders (DNACPR)** put on their medical file.



A **Do Not Attempt Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation** order is a medical document.

They are sometimes called **DNACPR** or **DNR**.



It means that if someone's heart stops working doctors will not try to restart it.



Doctors should only put a DNACPR order on someone's file if they believe someone is dying and there is no chance they will get better.

If doctors do not think restarting someone's heart will help them get better, they will create a DNACPR order.



You and your family should be included in decisions about this.



Sometimes you might not be able to make decisions because you are too poorly.



Sometimes the DNACPR orders are still in place after people leave hospital.

Some doctors have sent them out to people.



This should not happen just because people have a disability.



Decisions about DNACPR orders should be made with the person and their family or people who know them well



This document talks about the different questions you should ask if you have a DNACPR order on your medical file.

It talks about the law and what the guidance created by doctors say.

# 1. Has the reason for DNACPR been looked at before the person left hospital?



DNACPR orders are important documents.

Doctors must look at them regularly to make sure there is still a good reason for it to be in place.



If someone's health changes the DNACPR should be looked at by doctors.



This is called a review.



If someone is well enough to leave hospital doctors should have a review.



You should check the date on the DNACPR. It should be the same day the person left hospital.



This is because the review should be part of being discharged.

If it hasn't been reviewed, you should ask the doctors to do it.

## 2. Is there a good reason for DNACPR decision? Is it in line with guidance?



You can ask for a copy of the minutes or notes that explain why the decision was made.



The British Medical Association (B.M.A.) is a big organisation that helps doctors think about how they should work.



With other groups they have written rules about what are good reasons and bad reasons for DNACPR decisions.

They say that having a disability should never be a reason.



If disability is given as a reason on someone's DNACPR form, they should ask for another doctor to look at their case.

You have the right to ask for a second opinion.

### 3. Has the doctor explained why someone has been allowed to leave hospital with a DNACPR still in place?



Doctors should explain to the person and their family or support why this is being allowed.

If they haven't you should ask the doctor who wrote the DNACPR to talk to you.



They should explain why this is happening and give you more information

### 4. If someone doesn't have capacity has there been a Case Conference Meeting?



Having capacity means you can make that decision for yourself.





Each decision is different so you might need help for some decisions but be able to make other decisions for yourself.



People who cannot make some decisions will have people to help them make decisions.

Talking to people’s family about DNACPRs is part of the Human Rights Act.

A Case Conference Meeting helps everyone decide what is best for the person.



Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000

These meetings must be done a certain way. The law called the Adults with Incapacity Act says how these decisions should be made.



If a Case Conference Meeting has already happened, you can ask for the information from the meeting. These are called the minutes.



If a Case Conference Meeting hasn’t happened, you should ask the doctor to set one up.

## 5. Has the review process been agreed?



Doctors must make sure they have a plan for when they will review each person's DNACPR.

Each time they review it they should write down the reasons for the decisions they are making.



If a review hasn't been agreed, ask the doctor when the decision will be reviewed



If your doctor will not review or remove the DNACPR order you can ask for a second opinion.

This means asking another doctor for their opinion.