

**What do I do next?  
Who do I contact for more  
information?**

In most instances, the best person to contact is your funeral home director. They are very knowledgeable and can walk you through the next steps in the process to arrange funeral and burial services.

If you were not present at the scene and have specific questions regarding the investigation, the local dispatch center can help get you in contact with the appropriate law enforcement officers, coroner, or medical examiner. They should be contacted on their non-emergency line:

**Wyoming County Dispatch  
585-786-2255**



**Where can I turn for help?**

The death of a loved one can be difficult. Fortunately there are a variety of services available to help you through this. If you are interested in any counseling or mental health services you can contact the Wyoming County Mental Health Department at 585-786-8871 or visit their website

<https://www.wyomingco.net/434/Mental-Health> for more information.

# Treatment of Cardiac Arrest by EMS

A resource for patients & families



## Treatment of Cardiac Arrest

The management of cardiac arrest (when the heart stops beating) in the prehospital setting has changed greatly in recent years. It is now common that patients in cardiac arrest will be treated by EMS at the scene and not transported to the emergency department (ED).

Through multiple medical studies we now know that:

- The chance of survival decreases significantly in the first few minutes after cardiac arrest
- The best chance the patient has at survival is by providing high quality cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and early defibrillation when warranted
- CPR provided when moving a patient out of a house or in a moving ambulance is not as effective as CPR performed at the scene
- Ensuring high quality compressions as soon as possible at the scene offers the highest probability of survival
- CPR and advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) care provided by the ED is the same treatment EMS provides in the field
- Providing the best cardiac arrest care may necessitate long treatment times on scene



## What happens when my loved one is deceased?

When a patient cannot be resuscitated and dies outside of the hospital, the cause and manner of death is explored. Often there will be some investigation at the location of the death. This typically involves collaboration between the following entities:

- Investigators from the local police department, sheriff's office, or state police
- The local coroner and/or medical examiner's office



## Where is the body taken afterwards?

The deceased person's body may remain on scene for a little bit while the cause of death is being examined. Depending on the circumstances and location the body may then be transported to the coroner's or medical examiner's office for further investigation or an autopsy if warranted.

If the investigation is completed the body may be released directly to the patient's funeral home, or taken temporarily to the coroner's or medical examiner's office, or to a local morgue until arrangements can be made for the body to be released to the funeral home.

