



Patient & Family Guide
2017

What is a Code Status?

QEII



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What is a Code Status?

Do you understand what it means when a doctor, nurse, or other medical personnel asks what your code status is?

Full code

All measures will be taken to revive you if your heart stops or if you stop breathing.

Some examples of measures taken might include:

- › CPR (chest compressions and rescue breathing)
- › Intubation (a tube down your throat to keep an open airway)
- › Medications
- › Defibrillation (“shocking” you)
- › Ventilator (a machine that breathes for you)
- › Intravenous (IV) for hydration and medication
- › Testing such as blood work, X-rays, CT scans etc.

No code / do not resuscitate

This includes maximum medical care up to but not including CPR or intubation:

- CPR will not be done.
- Testing can be done such as blood work, X-rays, CT scans, etc., if you wish this to be done.
- Medication to provide comfort from pain, anxiety or shortness of breath.
- Intravenous (IV) for hydration and medication.

Comfort care / allow natural death

- No “heroic measures” will be done, including CPR and tests; usually no IVs.
- Medication to provide comfort from pain, anxiety or shortness of breath.
- Palliative Care may be asked to assist with your care.

Before any decisions are made, the Personal Directive pamphlet will be read with you. Your wishes will be respected.

You may want to speak with family members. We can help you with those conversations if you would like.

**What are your questions?
Please ask. We are here to help you.**

