Patient who is Dead on Arrival by EMS

Hemicorporectomy? Decapitation? Decomposition? Significant Rigor with Dependent lividity?

Yes

1. Confirm Pulseless and Apneic (EKG not required)
2. Record time of non-resuscitation
3. Turn scene over to Law Enforcement if not in nursing home. Nursing homes are expected to handle funeral arrangements

No

Yes

1. Confirm pulseless and apneic
2. Run 30 Second EKG strip (60 seconds if patient is cold) if Medic
3. Turn scene over to Law Enforcement if not in nursing home. Nursing homes are expected to handle funeral arrangements

Vital signs on EMS arrival?

Blunt

Yes

Perform CPR and transport to UVA Immediately if transport is <15 minutes. Helicopter is not appropriate unless vital signs are regained

Vital signs?

Yes, with EMS Or <8 min of arrest

Yes

Penetrating

None for at least 8 minutes prior to EMS arrival

No

Vital signs? Any doubt about Downtime?

Special Notes:

- GSW to head may be survivable. If patient would otherwise qualify for transport do not delay
- ECG should be attached to PCR or appropriate documentation
- On rare occasion or when special circumstances are involved (e.g. patient in public view) you may be asked by law enforcement to transport a deceased patient to the morgue (UVA) until a decision can be made as to the final destination for the patient. Advise ECC/DUTY-1. Rhythm strip must accompany call sheet.
- Protect yourself and the scene if the patient has expired and LEO are investigating. If our role is completed, then relocate or leave the scene.