Starting August 1, 2014, the prehospital definition for Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC) will be standardized as follows:

ROSC is when a patient has experienced a cardiac arrest requiring ACLS interventions AND has a confirmed pulse by ED MD upon arrival to a receiving hospital.

Do not document ROSC if the following occurs:

1) Momentary pulses noted but not sustained through arrival at receiving facility.

2) Bystander CPR initiated, but paramedic finds pulse present upon arrival, without Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) or any ACLS interventions.

3) ED MD states that there is no pulse or does not believe that ROSC present.

4) Non-transporting prehospital providers should never document ROSC unless they accompany the patient to the hospital. Instead, they should document pulses present at handoff to transporting paramedic.

Thank you for your compliance. This information is significant and will be entered into the national CARES registry.

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