

## **Respiratory Therapists' role with LOPA patients that will be taken to OR for Organ Donation after Cardiac Death (DCD)**

The policy in its entirety is found at Hospital Policy Proc 5.7.1:

[http://www.sh.lsuhs.edu/policies/policy\\_manuals\\_via\\_ms\\_word/hospital\\_policy/h\\_5.7.1.pdf](http://www.sh.lsuhs.edu/policies/policy_manuals_via_ms_word/hospital_policy/h_5.7.1.pdf)

### **ORGAN DONOR: Terminal Weaning from Mechanical Ventilation**

1. The LSU attending physician continues full responsibility for the patient until declaration of death.
2. "Terminal wean" means removal from the ventilator and the LSU physician manages this process.
3. The terminal wean and organ recovery will usually be done in the OR, but could be done in the ICU if necessary.
4. The respiratory therapist will assist in whatever way necessary to get the patient to the OR. The attending physician may determine that the patient can be bagged, or may request that our ventilator be used for transport.
5. The respiratory therapist is not required to stay in the OR, but may leave our ventilator with the patient and attending physician if necessary.
6. Once again, the LSU physician is responsible for managing the terminal wean (removal from the ventilator) and declaration of death. "The pronouncing physician will determine the timing and how the ventilator will be weaned and pronounce the patient".