

# DNR as a choice

SIR - There can be no blanket or predetermined "do not resuscitate" order (Letters, August 26). Any such order negates the overriding principle that each patient is entitled to be treated as an individual under the circumstances prevailing at the time.

The proper course of action is to consult the patient (if possible), the next of kin and nursing staff. The nurses should always be present.

The decision not to resuscitate allows a natural event to take place. Careful consideration will act as a powerful tool in alleviating grief.

Dr Andrew Harding \*

Haywards Heath, West Sussex

D. Tel. 27.8.2020