



**Defining Obvious Death**

**How do we determine if a patient should be resuscitated?**

**Obvious Death**

- **Significant dependent lividity**
  - Pooling of blood in dependent areas
  - Begins 30 - 60 minutes after death
  - Significant after 3 - 4 hours
  - Helps determine movement after death

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- **Decomposition or peeling**

### **Confounding Factors**

- **Down time estimates by family**
- **Body temperature**
  - Decreases 2 - 3 degrees per hour (average)

### **Motor Vehicle Collisions**

- Front end
- Rear end
- Side impact
- Rollover

### **Mechanism of Injury**

- **Falls**
  - Height
  - Surface
  - Fall broken
  - Part of body which impacts

### **Carbon Monoxide Poisoning**

### **Traumatic Asphyxia**

### **Mechanism of Injury**

- **Gunshot wounds**
- **Knife wounds**

Dan Limmer  
Instructor, Southern Maine  
Community College Paramedic Program

Paramedic, Kennebunk Fire-Rescue,  
Kennebunk, ME

P.O. Box 292  
Kennebunkport, ME 04046  
danlimmer@earthlink.net