

Practical support after a death

Name / initials:

1 / 2 Ask the local team what to do

For an expected death at home, ask the team whom to call and who can attend. For an unexpected or uncertain situation, an accident or possible injury, contact emergency services. Follow the responsible service's advice before moving the body or removing devices. This sheet cannot certify a death or replace legal procedures.

Type in a form-capable PDF reader, save a copy, then close and reopen it to check. Completed files are not encrypted; keep them securely. Text boxes can scroll: for long answers, keep the full text in your own document labelled with this worksheet and question, and enter "See attached notes" here. Print your completed copy from the reader and check print preview. If your language does not display correctly, use a document that supports it, or print and write by hand.

Local plan explained by / date / care setting

Expected death: first clinical contact, availability and backup

Who can attend, confirm the death and advise on medical certification in this setting

Registrar or hospital help desk: documents, registration process and local requirements to confirm

Family or faith/community contact and any wishes previously expressed by the patient

For long answers, enter "See attached notes" and print the full response separately. Check that all intended text is visible in print preview.

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2 / 2 Share the tasks and support the people

Medical certification and civil registration are different. Registration is generally reported within 21 days to the registrar for the place of death; confirm the local documents and responsible reporter. Ask about safe return or disposal of medicines and equipment.

Task / responsible adult / backup: family updates, transport and immediate arrangements

Documents, copies and receipts needed; where the originals will be kept safely

Children or other dependants: trusted adult, honest explanation and routines

Who can offer practical company, grief support or professional help if needed

Later questions for the team; support for someone who feels unable to cope

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