

What to do immediately after death (with nursing)



*1 The resident needs to have been registered with a Community Health Professional.

*2 If GP needs to verify and/or certify death please ensure you inform at the time of request why. When calling GP ask for an approximate time scale and complete body check and record charts on the reverse.

A person needs to be certified not just verified. Verification is the confirmation that someone has died. Certification is needed to be completed by the doctor caring for the person. The GP will need to see the person if they are for cremation, so it is important that the person doesn't leave the local area before this happens.

Once a person dies the body starts to naturally decompose (this process is affected by room temperature). It is therefore important that staff minimise the temperature in the room and make regular checks of the deceased before the body is transferred to a funeral director where there are cold storage facilities.

The form below will give you guidance as to what you should do and what you should look for.

Please ensure you record who you spoke to at the GP and Funeral homes along with family.

	Tick or complete as appropriate
Date of death	
Time of death	
Windows opened and radiators are off in the resident's bedroom	
GP informed of Certification needed as out of area Funeral Home	
GP has agreed to visit the Home by Time and Date	
If GP can't visit home within 4-6 hours or 2 in the summer months, please call the HUB for advice	
After 18.30 Monday to Friday or anytime over the weekend	
Inform family that the resident will need to be moved to a local funeral home while GP is able to certify. (Ensure the family are aware this will incur a cost to them)	
GP has agreed to visit the Home by Time and Date	
If GP can't visit home within 4-6 hours or 2 in the summer months, please call the HUB for advice	

Body checks to be completed hourly/please record time of checking	
New swelling	
marbling to chest wall with darkened veins	
Greening over abdomen	
Signs of bloating on the body	
Room temperature if known	
Please monitor resident body and contact the Hub if you have any concerns 01273 964164	