



Health

Facility:

CARE AFTER DEATH IN HOSPITAL - ADULT

FAMILY NAME

MRN

GIVEN NAME

☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE

D.O.B. ____ / ____ / ____

M.O.

ADDRESS

LOCATION / WARD

COMPLETE ALL DETAILS OR AFFIX PATIENT LABEL HERE

To be completed by nursing staff and filed in patient's health care record

Caring for a deceased person is one part of the overall continuum of care given to patients and those close to them at the end of life. At all times dignity and respect of the deceased person should be maintained.

Place ☒ in appropriate response

	Yes	No	N/A
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Verification and notification of death

Inform the doctor to verify patient's death (refer to Death – Verification of Death and Medical Certificate of Cause of Death PD2015_040)

Arrangements have been made to notify the Admitting Medical Officer / General Practitioner of patient's death

Notify Nursing Unit Manager or designated 'in charge' in business hours; after hours notify designated 'in-charge' of ward and after hours Operational Nurse Manager (ONM)

Person responsible, family/carer and/or Residential Aged Care Facility notified

Arrangements are in place to complete all legal documents e.g. Medical Certificate of Cause of Death / Coronial Checklist / Cremation Certificate

Post mortem tissue donation considered and discussed with the family / carer

Support services contacted as needed and/or requested by family/carer e.g. social worker, pastoral care or chaplain support. **This may include patient's personal pastoral supports**

Care of the body

Discussed with relatives any cultural and/or spiritual/religious rites that are in line with deceased patient's wishes before handling the body

Procedures for laying out the body followed (as per LHD policy)

The appropriateness of offering the family/carer to participate in care after death is considered

Standard precautions and LHD infection control policy and procedures are adhered to

The family have been offered time to be with the deceased on the ward as long as they wish prior to transportation to the mortuary (as per LHD policy)

Patient correctly identified prior to transfer out of ward to mortuary

Communication

Arrange mortuary viewing and contact Funeral Director or Social Worker (if available)

Family aware that cardiac devices (ICDs) or pacemaker must be removed prior to cremation (as per LHD policy)

Post mortem discussed if appropriate

Valuables returned to the family/carer (as per LHD policy)

Family/carer provided with bereavement and local support services information

Family/carer provided with hospital contact information for questions that may arise around the patient's care at a later date

Name of nurse completing this page

Print name: _____ Signature: _____

Designation: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____ Time: ____ : ____

Taking care of the body after death or "last offices" is an important part of the care of patients, offering an opportunity for you to show dignity and respect to someone you have cared for. However, it can be challenging or distressing due to the very personal nature of grief. Whilst this is natural, it is important to acknowledge your concerns and experiences with your colleagues or contact your Employees Assistance Program (EAP).

NO WRITING

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