

Patient expiration Process
(*Always verify and follow your facility policy)

Documentation the death of a patient has Meditech documentation to complete as well as a Release of Body form found on eDemand.

1. **Pronounce the patient** with a 2nd RN witness if an RN is pronouncing the death while at patient's bedside. Otherwise note name of doctor who pronounced.
2. **Notify House Supervisor** and Charge Nurse. Ask for assistance, if needed.
3. **Enter an order** for your state's organ donation organization as a consult, with an Order Type of Z – Department Process. This gives the organ donation organization access to the patient record via PCI.
4. **Contact your state's organ donation organization.** This needs to be done before the deceased leaves the hospital, as they will contact the family if the deceased is suitable for donation.
5. Add and document the Intervention/Treatment- **Post Mortem Care.**
 - A. Organ Procurement notified
 - B. MD's notified
 - C. Death within 24 hrs of admission?
 - D. House Supervisor notified
 - E. Release of Body form completed
 - F. Medical Examiner notified (if applicable)
 - G. Body preparation
 - H. Next of Kin information
 - I. Personal items disposition
 - J. Organ donation organization notified
 - K. Funeral Home
6. Complete eDemand **Authorization for Release of Body form.** Make a copy to go with the deceased. Make sure all fields are appropriately signed, include staff and funeral home/medical examiner representative. Placed original signed copy on the chart.
7. Complete an **Event Report** for Sentinel (unexpected) deaths.

Emergency Department may need to call the Medical Examiner related to presentations less than 24 hrs.

Women's Services has a different process for fetal demise. They have their own eDemand packet and special consents for a parent to sign and most of their charting is via CPN.