

## BRIEFING NOTE

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**To:** Joint Medical Advisory Committee  
**From:** Dr. Gillian Kernaghan, Phyllis Brady, Amy Lee  
**Re:** Changes in the Reporting of Deaths of Patients from LTC facilities to the Coroner  
**Date:** March 30, 2007

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**Purpose/Goal:** To update medical staff regarding the recent changes in the reporting of deaths of patients from Nursing Homes, Homes for the Aged and Charitable Institutions (LTC facilities) to the Coroner

**Current process:** If a patient from a LTC facilities dies and none of the indications are met to call the coroner, and it is not a threshold death then the normal death forms are competed.

**New Procedure:**

When persons who normally reside in a LTC facility dies within 30 days of transfer to a hospital, each death must be reported to the coroner by completing the Institutional Patient Death Record (IPDR). To answer questions 6-9, the facility where the individual was transferred from must be contacted.

If the answer to any of these questions is 'Yes', a local coroner must be notified directly and immediately.

If there are no 'Yes' answers, submit the form to the Office of the Chief Coroner.

All registered residential facilities are required to keep track of – the number of deaths, the number of transfers to hospitals and the average number of deaths and transfers in a given time period.

**Key Issues:** Deaths of residents of nursing homes, homes for the aged, charitable institutions at those institutions or in hospital within 30 days of transfer from these facilities must be reported to the Coroner by submission of the Institutional Patient Death Record within 48 hours of death. The forms are available with the death documentation package in Admitting/Health Records

**Next Steps:** The forms will be available with the death documentation for completion.