Accident
Specify circumstances
Specify intent, as 'car accident', suicidal, or assault;
Specify place of occurrence
Alcohol, drugs Specify use: long term or single, addiction;
Complication of surgery
Specify disease: disease that caused surgery
Demenţa
Specify cause: Alzheimer, infarction, old age, other
Hepaţis
Specify course, etiology: acute or chronic, alcoholic
If viral: Specify type (A, B, C,...)
Infarction
Specify site: heart, brain,...
Specify cause: atherosclerosis, thrombotic,
Specify site: heart, brain,...
Tumour
Specify primary, secondary, cause: carcinoma, cysse
Infection
Specify primary or secondary, cause: tuberculosis,
Lues
Specify primary:Specify bacterial or viral
Renal failure
Specify cause: acute, chronic or terminal, underlying
specify the cause of the immobility
Pulmonary embolism
Specify cause: disease that caused surgery or immobility
Pneumonia
Specify primary, aspiration, cause: causative organism
If due to immobility: specify the cause of the immobility
Renal failure
Specify cause: acute, chronic or terminal, underlying
cause of insufficiency, like arteriosclerosis, or infection
If due to immobility: specify the cause of the immobility
Thrombosis
Specify arterial or venous
Specify cause: disease that caused surgery or immobility
Tumour
Specify behaviour, location, metastases
Urinary tract infection
Specify site in the urinary tract, causative organism, underlying
cause of infection
If due to immobility: specify the cause of the immobility
Frequently used ill-defined terms

Cause of death information serves epidemiology and prevention of diseases or conditions recorded on a death certificate provides a property completed cause-of-death certificate provides a description of the best medical opinion of the health of people.

The cause of death is one of the first steps in getting an overview of the health of people.

The certification of death is one of the first steps in getting an overview of the health of people.

A properly completed cause-of-death certificate provides a description of the best medical opinion of the health of people.

The certification of death is one of the first steps in getting an overview of the health of people.

The certification of death is one of the first steps in getting an overview of the health of people.

In line with ICD-10
Death Certificate
Cause of Death
Organization
World Health Organization

Cause of death: In line with ICD-10
Death Certificate
Cause of Death
Organization
World Health Organization

Quick Reference Guide

In line with ICD-10
Death Certificate
Cause of Death
Organization
World Health Organization

The certification of death is one of the first steps in getting an overview of the health of people.

The certification of death is one of the first steps in getting an overview of the health of people.

The certification of death is one of the first steps in getting an overview of the health of people.

The certification of death is one of the first steps in getting an overview of the health of people.

Cause of death information serves epidemiology and prevention of diseases or conditions recorded on a death certificate provides a description of the best medical opinion of the health of people.

The cause of death is one of the first steps in getting an overview of the health of people.

The certification of death is one of the first steps in getting an overview of the health of people.

A properly completed cause-of-death certificate provides a description of the order, type and association of events that have resulted in the death.

The diagnoses reported on the certificate are coded with the International Classification of Diseases, 10th edition.

This coded data is analyzed and used both nationally and internationally no matter what language was used to complete this coded data is analyzed and used both nationally and internationally.
Cause of Death on the certificate - how to fill in?

Death certificates may look different in most countries. But the section on the cause of death is identical worldwide. That section has been designed by WHO, based on a century of experience. It has two parts, called Part I and Part II, and a section to record the time interval between the onset of each condition and the date of death.

Part I - is used for diseases or conditions that form part of the sequence of events leading directly to death.

The immediate (direct) cause of death is entered on the first line, I(a). There must always be an entry on line I(a). The entry on line I(a) may be the only condition reported in Part I of the certificate.

Where there are two or more conditions that form part of the sequence of events leading directly to death. Each event in the sequence should be recorded on a separate line.

In any case you must record the disease, injury or external cause that resulted in the death. Do not record the mode of dying, such as cardiac arrest, respiratory failure or heart failure.

“Unknown” cause of death should be recorded in cases where thorough testing or autopsy examination cannot determine a cause of death. “Unknown” is better than any speculation on the possible cause of death.

Always fully spell out all terms. Abbreviations can be interpreted in different ways. Terms such as “suspected” or “possible” are ignored in evaluation of the entries. For example “suspected Diabetes” will be interpreted as “Diabetes”.

The four lines may not provide enough space for the chain of events. Do not waste space with unnecessary words. Some clinical terms are very vague. For example, “tumour” does not specify behaviour (see also last page of this flyer).

Duration - is the time interval between the onset of each condition that is entered on the certificate (not the time of diagnosis of the condition), and the date of death. The duration information is useful in coding certain diseases and also provides a useful check on the order of the reported sequence of conditions.

Part II - is used for conditions which have no direct connection with the events leading to death but whose presence contributed to death.

Cause of Death on the certificate - step by step

Start at line I(a), with the immediate (direct) cause, then go back in time to preceding conditions until you get to the one that started the sequence of events. You will get very close to the time the patient was healthy.

Now, you should have reported the underlying or originating cause on the lowest used line and a sequence of events leads from the underlying cause up to the immediate (direct) cause in the first line I(a).

Finally, record the time interval between the onset of each condition entered on the certificate and the date of death. Where the time or date of onset is not known you should record a best estimate. Enter the unit of time (minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years).

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of death</th>
<th>Approximate interval between onset and death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disease or condition directly leading to death *)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) Cerebral haemorrhage</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>due to (or as a consequence of)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Metastasis of the brain</td>
<td>4 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>due to (or as a consequence of)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Breast cancer</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>due to (or as a consequence of)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antecedent causes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morbid conditions, if any, giving rise to the above</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cause, stating the underlying condition last</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arterial hypertension</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes mellitus</td>
<td>10 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This does not mean the mode of dying, e.g. heart failure, respiratory failure. It means the disease, injury, or complication that caused death.

- Write clearly and do not use abbreviations.
- Be sure the information is complete.
- Do not speculate on the cause of death; rather record “cause unknown”.
- Do not fill in laboratory results or statements like “found by wife”. (There may be separate fields on the form for this kind of information)
- One condition per line should be sufficient.