

ELECTRONIC DEATH REGISTRY SYSTEM (EDRS) – GETTING ACCESS IN PREPARATION OF A PASSING PATIENT

There are steps you should take before your patient passes. The first is to understand the law regarding death certificate timeliness, your responsibilities, and the tools available to make your part of the death certificate process easier, faster, and less stressful.

The law states that death certificates must be complete within 72 hours from death or discovery (NRS440.490). In an ideal world, the funeral home starts the record within 24 hours and assigns the medical certifier. The medical certifier has 24 hours to complete the medical information and sign. The remaining 24 hours is for registrars to review and sign. Somewhere in these 72 hours, the family has to confirm details about the decedent to the funeral home.

What do you need to know about death certificates?

1. Anyone who has terminally ill patients, works at a hospice/rehabilitation facility, specializes in geriatrics, or works in an emergency room should have access to the EDRS.

Before the death occurs, get your access to the EDRS, install it on your PC, and take the training for medical certifiers (physicians, APRN's, coroners and medical examiners).

2. The timeline to sign is very tight.

Medical Certifiers (including APRNS) only have 24 hours to sign the death record once it has been assigned to you. If the record is rejected, the medical certifier has an additional 24 hours to correct and re-sign. (NRS 440.415.4)

3. What are you responsible for on the death record?

Certifiers are responsible for the following: date of birth, date of death, time of death, cause of death, and the social security number. You are responsible for any corrections to this information.

4. How to determine if the death certificate is your responsibility or belongs to the Coroner/Medical Examiner?

Responsibility is covered in-depth during the physician/APRN's training sponsored by the Office of Vital Records. System training occurs via Teams and takes one hour.

5. How to install and navigate the existing EDRS?

The existing EDRS is older and has specific system requirements. You cannot just click on the link, enter your login, and expect the system to function. You must pre-install the system requirements in 3 simple steps (included with your login information). While the Office of Vital Records is looking into a new or upgraded system that does not require any downloads and works on multiple browsers, this will take some time. In the

meantime, the Office of Vital Records offers installation assistance appointments and training. Please contact us via email at OVRHELP@health.nv.gov .

6. Who can sign a death record?

Medical Doctors (MD), Doctor of Osteopathy (DO) & Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN), Coroners & Medical Examiners.

7. Can I have my assistant enter the information for me to review and sign?

Yes. Vital Records created system roles for your assistant. Your assistant must have their own separate login. Please have your assistant contact our office for access.