

Memorandum

To: Anna Greenberg, Interim Executive Lead, Clinical Institutes & Quality Programs, Ontario Palliative Care Network
Mark B. Walton, Regional Lead, Ontario Palliative Care Network
Dara Laxer, Executive Director, Health Policy & Promotion, Ontario Medical Association
Fiona Hill-Hinrichs, Director of Communications & Media, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario
Craig Roxborough, Director of Policy, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario
Kevin McCarthy, Director of Strategy, College of Nurses of Ontario
Nancy Cooper, Director of Quality & Performance, Ontario Long Term Care Association
Dana Cooper, Executive Director, Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario
Leanne Clarke, Chief Executive Office, Ontario College of Family Physicians
Michael Robertson, Director, Long-Term Care Response Branch, Ministry of Long-Term Care
Brad Robinson, Acting Director, Long-Term Care Inspections Branch, Ministry of Long-Term Care

From: Alexandra Schmidt
Deputy Registrar General / Director

Date: February 26, 2021

Re: Use of the electronic Medical Certificate of Death by physicians and nurse practitioners providing palliative care

Thank you for your participation and feedback on the use of the electronic Medical Certificate of Death (eMCOD). I am writing to inform you that beginning February 26, 2021, use of the electronic Medical Certificate of Death (eMCOD) will be expanded to include physicians and registered nurses holding an extended certificate (referred to as nurse practitioners) providing palliative care outside of a hospital setting (e.g., patient's place of residence, hospice, long-term care home).

As your organization has expressed an interest in using the eMCOD, please share the attached memo with those physicians and nurse practitioners providing palliative care who are members of your organization if you would like them to have the option to use this.

Physicians and nurse practitioners providing palliative care outside of a hospital setting will have the option to use the eMCOD to electronically input and certify required data and submit the form securely (using an automatically generated password that is sent in a separate email) directly to the funeral home. Step-by-step instructions on completing and transferring the eMCOD to a funeral director are attached as a PDF in the enclosed user guide. The eMCOD is for use by coroners, coroner investigators, and physicians and nurse practitioners providing palliative care outside of a hospital setting and not available to the general public. If you plan to provide the user guide on your website, we ask that it be available on internal webpages (e.g., members-only) or provided to applicable members only.

The eMCOD contains personal information recorded by physicians and nurse practitioners. This information is covered under various privacy legislation in Ontario. Physicians and nurse practitioners are required to follow all applicable requirements, policies, and guidelines under privacy legislation around handling of personal information when using the eMCOD. Further details and links to reference materials are available in the user guide.

Thank you again for your continued cooperation. If you or any of your members have any questions or require clarification regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact MCOD.Support@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Schmidt

Alexandra Schmidt

Deputy Registrar General, Office of the Registrar General

Director, Thunder Bay Production and Verification Services Branch

Enclosure

- c. Carey Smith, CEO/Registrar, Bereavement Authority of Ontario
- Dr. Dirk Huyer, Chief Coroner, Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario
- Tara Walton, Team Lead, Clinician Engagement, Ontario Palliative Care Network
- Elaine Meertens, Interim Director, Cancer Care Clinical Programs and Quality Initiatives, Ontario Health

Nicole Oentoro, Manager, Implementation, Implementation & Change, Ontario Medical Association

Michelle Gauley, Senior Policy Analyst, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario

Danna Aranda, Government Relations Coordinator, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario

Catriona Mill, Manager, Practice Quality, College of Nurses of Ontario

Carlyn Tancioco, Advanced Practice Consultant, College of Nurses of Ontario

Claudia Mariano, Manager, Practice and Policy, Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario

Rena Bowen, Senior Policy Advisor, Long-Term Care Inspections Branch, Ministry of Long-Term Care