








# Joint Coroner's Office, Medical Examiner and Register Office MCCD Guidance

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|    | <p><b>Death Certification Reforms FROM 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024</b><br/>From April 2024, all deaths in England and Wales will be independently reviewed by medical examiner (ME) scrutiny or investigation by a coroner.<br/>The new, revised Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) requires additional information: confirmation of scrutiny by ME, medical devices/ implants, ethnicity (self-declared by patient) - 'unknown' can also be used and a new '1d' bringing the system in line with international standards.</p>  |
|    | <p><b>Have you treated the deceased during their lifetime?</b><br/>Then, providing you know the Cause of Death on the balance of probabilities, you can complete the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD).</p>  |
|    | <p><b>Continue to refer deaths to coroner that meet the criteria</b> - was the cause of death unknown, unnatural, violent, a result of neglect, the result of a direct operation/medical intervention, or suspicious in any way? <b>OR</b> no doctor who has seen the patient during their lifetime available. <b>Then refer to the coroner's service</b> on their <a href="#">portal</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There is no regulatory requirement for the attending doctor to inform the ME service of referral of a death to the coroner</li><li>• An ME can recommend to a coroner that an investigation take place.</li><li>• If coroner declines jurisdiction, the attending doctor must refer the case to the ME service for scrutiny. (100A form abolished)</li></ul>   |
|  | <p>When completing the new Medical Certificate of Cause of Death:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure your handwriting is clear, legible and avoid abbreviations.</li><li>• Crossings out and amendments must be initialled by the certifying doctor.</li><li>• Please put your GMC number and printed name at the back of the MCCD.</li><li>• Include the NHS number</li><li>• You must mark 'yes' or 'no' to indicate the presence or absence of an 'Implantable Device'</li><li>• Complete/ circle all appropriate sections including pregnancy and ethnicity</li><li>• Put 'years' after the patient's age (or months in paediatric cases)</li></ul>   |
|  | <p><b>On completion of the death certificate, send the scanned MCCD and <i>Ardens Medical Examiner Referral form</i> via e-RS Advice &amp; Guidance or secure email to the HUTH Medical Examiner (ME) office.</b> Do not give the MCCD to the family or next of kin. The scan and email must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medical records for the deceased so that the ME can scrutinise the case.</li><li>• both the front and back of the MCCD.</li><li>• next of kin names, email addresses and phone numbers so contact can be made with families.</li></ul> <p><b>HUTH ME service will email your scanned MCCD to the relevant Registration Service after scrutiny.</b> All Deaths must be registered in the district they occur.<br/><b>HUTH ME Office:</b> HRI - 01482 482157/ 482158, CHH – 01482 482156<br/><a href="mailto:hyp-tr.medicalexaminers@nhs.net">hyp-tr.medicalexaminers@nhs.net</a></p> |
|  | <p>All non-coronial referral deaths must be registered within <b>5 days of the MCCD being sent to the Registrars. This is not 5 working days</b>, and the day the MCCD is received is counted as day one.</p>   |
|  | <p>Hard Copy MCCDs should be retained at the practice and then confidentially destroyed after 4 weeks. There is no need to post them to the Register Office.<br/>We ask that MCCDs are kept for 4 weeks in case they need to be referred to, and/or, amended.</p>   |

For further guidance please see the front of the MCCD book or contact the Coroner's service [coroners.referrals@hullcc.gov.uk](mailto:coroners.referrals@hullcc.gov.uk), or registration service above where the death occurred.