



Information for 2018
Health Care Providers

Expected Death at Home Form and Process



www.nshealth.ca

Planning for a death at home

When plans have been made for a home death, families should be reminded that there is no need to call 911 at the time of death. Calling 911 will trigger an emergency response and this may be distressing to grieving families.

If 911 is called, a completed **Expected Death at Home** (EDAH) form may decrease the likelihood of an unintended emergency response. It is important to advise families that this will not guarantee that police will not respond.

About the form

If you need help locating the Expected Death at Home form, please contact palliativecare@nshealth.ca.

The 1-page form summarizes the important information required to facilitate a peaceful and respectful home death. The form includes basic demographic information and identifies the physician/nurse practitioner/program who agrees to sign the death certificate within 24 hours. This is critical to enable funeral providers to transport the body.

The form should be completed in discussion with the client/their delegate/their statutory decision-maker.

If permission is provided, the form will be shared with the funeral provider and local police.

If consent is not obtained to share the form electronically, it can still be left in the home and the family may choose to show it to police and funeral providers in the home.

After the EDAH form has been completed and consent has been obtained to share the form:

Place one copy of the EDAH form in the Nova Scotia **Green Sleeve**, to be kept in the home.

Send a copy of the completed form to the NSHA palliative care office (see instructions on back page). You will receive a confirmation that your form has been received.

The NSHA palliative care program will forward the completed form to the **local police** and **funeral provider** listed on the form.

If the family calls 911, in most instances, **police** will stand down the call if pre-notified of an expected death in the home. In some situations, police may still need to come to the home.

In most instances, **funeral providers** will be able to remove the body from the home without a death certificate. A signed death certificate must be produced within 24 hours.

How to submit the form:

By fax: 902-425-1284 **OR**

For health care providers using an **NSHA email address**, please email completed forms to palliativecare@nshealth.ca.

For health care providers **not** using an NSHA email address, please **protect patient privacy** by sending a secure email to palliativecare@nshealth.ca **using the “SEND Envelope”** at <https://send.nshealth.ca>:

- 1. Go to the secure SEND Envelope using your unique link.** If you do not have a link, please contact palliativecare@nshealth.ca. Once you receive a link, you will use it for all submissions; this link will never change.
- 2. Upload your completed form and click ‘send’.**

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The information in this pamphlet is to be updated every 3 years or as needed.