



Information for 2021
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 death at home, remind the family that there is no need to call 911 at the time of death. Calling 911 will trigger an emergency response, which 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 EDAH form

If you need help locating the form, please email: palliativecare@nshealth.ca

The 1-page form summarizes the important information required to facilitate a peaceful and respectful death at home. The form includes basic demographic information and identifies the physician/nurse practitioner/program who has agreed 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 consent is obtained to share the form electronically, it will be shared with police and the funeral provider.

If consent is not obtained, it can still be left in the home and the family may choose to show it to police and the funeral provider 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 patient's home.

Email or fax a copy of the completed form to the Nova Scotia Health palliative care office (see instructions on back cover).

The Nova Scotia Health palliative care program will forward the completed form to the **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 at home. In some situations, police may still need to come to the home.

In most instances, the **funeral provider** 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 an EDAH form:

For health care providers **using** a Nova Scotia Health email address:

- › Email: palliativecare@nshealth.ca
- › Fax: 902-425-1284

For health care providers **who are not using** a Nova Scotia Health email address:

- › Fax: 902-425-1284
- › **Note: This is a fax to email and does not generate a paper fax.**

Looking for more health information?

Find this pamphlet and all our patient resources here: <https://library.nshealth.ca/PatientEducation>

Contact your local public library for books, videos, magazines, and other resources.

For more information, go to <http://library.novascotia.ca>

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time: call 811 or visit <https://811.novascotia.ca>

Learn about other programs and services in your community: call 211 or visit <http://ns.211.ca>

Nova Scotia Health promotes a smoke-free, vape-free, and scent-free environment.

Please do not use perfumed products. Thank you!

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Prepared by: The Nova Scotia Health Palliative Care Network

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