

Discharging a Resident to the Mortuary

Highlights	Policy Statement
Discharge Procedures	<p>Our facility releases the body of a deceased resident to the mortuary identified on the resident's Record of Admission.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Policy Interpretation and Implementation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When it becomes necessary to discharge a resident to the mortuary, the following procedures will be implemented: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The resident must be declared legally dead in accordance with state law (either direct or indirect pronouncement by a Licensed Physician). b. All information pertaining to the death must be recorded on the nurses' notes (i.e., date, time of death, etc.). c. The Attending Physician must complete and file a death certificate with the appropriate agency within twenty-four (24) hours of the resident's death. d. The Charge Nurse must notify the resident's representative (sponsor) of the resident's death. e. Nursing Services will be responsible for cleaning and preparing the body for removal. f. The Charge Nurse or the resident's representative (sponsor) will notify the undertaker to pick up the body. (Note: The Charge Nurse must inform the undertaker of any isolation precautions and the type of precautions the resident was on, if applicable.) g. The name of the funeral home and the name of the person removing the body must be entered in the resident's chart. h. The person picking up the body must sign the release for the body, and the release must be placed in the resident's chart. i. All records must be completed and forwarded to Medical Records office within twenty-four (24) hours of the discharge. j. Policies governing post-mortem procedures are outlined in the Nursing Service Procedure Manual located at each nurses' station.
Resident's Personal Effects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Nursing Services will be responsible for preparing the resident's personal effects for the family to pick up.

References									
OBRA Regulatory Reference Numbers	483.65								
Survey Tag Numbers	F441								
Related Documents	Death of a Resident, Documenting (<i>End of Life Care</i>) Notification of Funeral Home (<i>End of Life Care</i>)								
Policy Revised	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Date: _____</td> <td style="width: 50%;">By: _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date: _____</td> <td>By: _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date: _____</td> <td>By: _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date: _____</td> <td>By: _____</td> </tr> </table>	Date: _____	By: _____	Date: _____	By: _____	Date: _____	By: _____	Date: _____	By: _____
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