We understand how difficult it is when someone dies at home.

Within the next few pages, we have detailed some important points and guidance, to let you know what you can expect to happen next.

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**What to do when someone dies at home**

**Useful Contact numbers and websites**

# GP Surgery: Porch Surgery 01249 712232

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**Out Of Hours Service: 0300 111 5818**

**Integrated Team: 01249 715037**

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# Care Coordinator: Jane Brake

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**Funeral Directors’** **Groups and Associations**

[www.nafd.org.uk](http://www.nafd.org.uk) 0121 711 1343. email: info@nafd.org.uk

<https://nffd.org.uk/> 0330 001 2413 **email:** enquiry@nffd.org.uk

[www.saif.org.uk](http://www.saif.org.uk) 0345 230 6777 email: info@saif.org.uk

# Support Services

# Age UK – [www.ageuk.org.uk](http://www.ageuk.org.uk)

 0800 169 2081

Cruse Bereavement Care –[www.cruse.org.uk](http://www.cruse.org.uk)

 0844 477 9400

# Dorothy House Hospice – [www.dorothyhouse.org.uk](http://www.dorothyhouse.org.uk)

 0345 0130 555

# IAPT Psychology – <https://iapt-wilts.awp.nhs.uk/>

 01380 731335

# Prospect Hospice – [www.prospect-hospice.net](http://www.prospect-hospice.net)

01793 813355

# Salisbury Hospice – [www.salisburyhospicecharity.org.uk](http://www.salisburyhospicecharity.org.uk)

 01722 416353

# Samaritans – [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org)

 116 123

**If you think your relative has died**

Call your family doctor, and then feel free to hold their hand, or hug them. It may be a few hours before someone visits.

When the doctor attends, if the death was expected, they will issue a Medical Certificate showing the cause of death. If it is overnight, or at the weekend, call out-of-hours. They will verify the death, but you will still need a medical certificate from your GP on the next working day.

If the death was unexpected, they will notify the coroner, who will in turn investigate the cause of death. The coroner will then issue a document instead of a medical certificate, often direct to the registrar.

**How to register the death**

# When someone dies, you normally need to register their death within 5 days. The death needs to be registered at the register office in the area in which the person died. Many register offices only see people by appointment, so it is best to call and check if this is the case.

Once the death has been registered, the registrar will give you 2 documents – a Certificate for Burial and Cremation form, also known as the green form, and a Certificate of Registration of Death, form BD8 also known as the death certificate. It is recommended you obtain 8 copies of this, for which there will be a charge.

# If you are arranging a cremation, an additional form will also need to be completed by the GP, and a doctor who was not involved in the care of your relative. These are Cremation form 4 and 5, also known as Part 1 and 2. These will normally then be forwarded to your chosen funeral director.

**Medicine and Equipment**

# If there is any medication remaining in the house, you need to return this to a local pharmacy, so that it can be disposed of safely.

If there is any medical equipment in the house, you can request this be collected from the delivery company - their details will be on a sticker on the equipment.

**What happens to the body of my relative?**

# Once you have spoken with the funeral director, they will agree a time with you to come to the house, and discuss care. In most cases, they will then look after your relative at the funeral home. It is possible to keep the body at home, but it would be recommended to seek advice before deciding to do this.

**Funeral directors**

# If you have not already done so, now is the time to consider which funeral director you may wish to use. It is recommended to use a funeral director who’s a member of one of the following:

National Association of Funeral Directors

# National Federation of Funeral Directors

Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors

These organizations have codes of practices – they must give you a price list when asked.

# The British Humanist Association can also help with non-religious funerals.