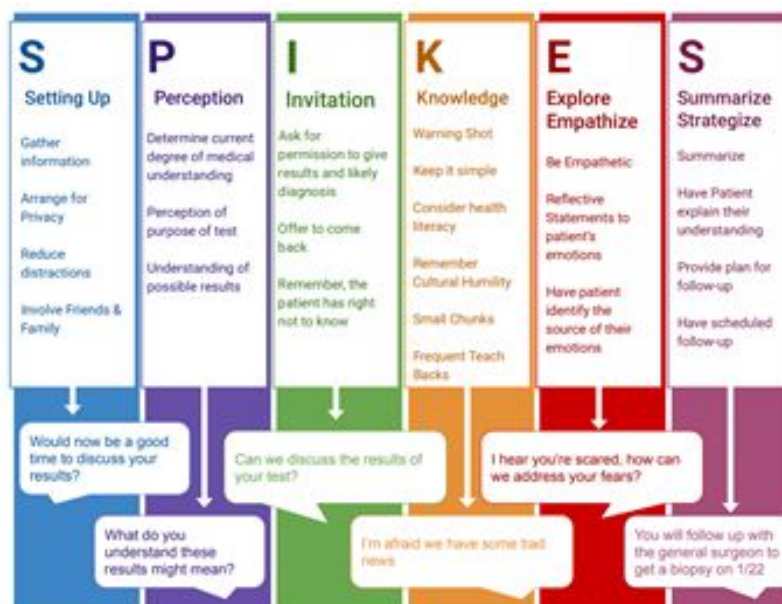


End-of-Life Protocol

Adapted for Utilization in the Emergency Department/Critical Care Trauma

Prior to Death	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Set up an account with eVital: Vital Events Registration System https://www1.nyc.gov/account/login.htm?spName=a816-evital.nyc.gov-evital&samlContext=3797831b-de70-4ec3-af58-a12629b92c13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Download NYC Health Certify App ● Any issues - speak to Office of Admitting (located in the lobby of King's County to the right of the gift shop)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Goals of Care Discussion if appropriate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review MOLST ● Verify up-to-date contact information for next of kin ● +/- call hospital Chaplain if appropriate
After Death	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Call "Live-On-NY" https://www.liveonny.org/ 646-291-4444 (1-800-GIFT-4-NY)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Do not discuss organ donation with the family (at UHB nurses may do this, document)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Notify the Family/Next of Kin & Attending</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If unable to reach, leave a message to come to hospital immediately ● Reference GRIEV_ING mnemonic or SPIKES for review on steps to loosely follow (see below) ● Inform clerk, will hand you death packet paperwork to be completed and filed
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Contact the Office of the Medical Examiner (718) 221-0600</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Particularly for patients who are young, trauma, intoxication, hospital injury ● Write down case reference number - Note: they may not give you this number until they process the appropriate paperwork you will fax ● If deemed an OME case, leave lines/tubes in place (nursing should assist) ● If not deemed an OME case and family requesting to see body, Nurse may remove drains, lines, tubes before allowing the family to see the deceased
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Death Certificate (through eVital)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inform admitting at 7402 ● Signed by pronouncing physician ● Cause of Death "Complications of _" not cardiopulmonary arrest (see below)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Death Note</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Document in chart - CODE, DNR/DNI/MOLST, Time of death, information of family, attending, information from above steps
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Disposition</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispo: Expired • Write a discharge summary of events - may be copied from Death Note or even serve as death note.
□	<p>Don't forget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write an IPN for the patient • Write a Procedure note for any procedures performed (intubation/Central Line/Critical Care)
□	<p>Next steps for family:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deceased patient will be moved to morgue, at which point the family will no longer have access • Can request autopsy, must go to admitting office ASAP (deadline within 48-72hrs) • Family can choose and call a funeral home and the funeral home will contact morgue to move deceased and make further arrangements





**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER**

Filling Out the Death Certificate

Use **black ink** only; no abbreviations.

Examples of Proximate (Underlying) Causes:
(These etiologically specific diseases can stand alone)

Arteriosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease
Hypertensive Cardiovascular Disease
Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease
Asthmatic Bronchitis
Pulmonary Emphysema
Lobar Pneumonia (NOT Bronchopneumonia)
Pancreatic Carcinoma
AIDS, if sexual risk factor
AIDS due to Chronic Intravenous Drug Use
Chronic Alcoholism

Examples of Mechanisms/Immediate Causes:
(NEVER alone on Death Certificate; always need underlying cause)

Bronchopneumonia	DIC
Pulmonary Embolism	Cardiac Arrhythmia
Acute Myocardial Infarct	Congestive Heart Failure

NEVER write on Death Certificates:

Cardiopulmonary Arrest
Respiratory Arrest
Asystole

Part II

"Conditions contributing to death but not resulting in the underlying cause in Part I" is NOT a place for unusual findings that are unrelated to the cause of death.

**QUESTIONS? Call OCME
212.447.2030**