

The Crematorium Office

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CREMATION FORM 4
MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

To assist the medical referee in approving this form please note:

1. If you have not attended the deceased within 14 days of their death in the community, **the Coroner MUST be informed**
2. If the patient died in hospital within 24 hours of admission, the Kent and Medway coroners no longer require automatic referral. However, if there is any uncertainty about the events prior to, or the cause, of death, you **MUST** still refer to the coroner.
If the death occurs on the background of an explanatory illness, or there is an obvious natural cause, referral is not required.
The patient's GP can often help provide additional information, which may help you.
If ever you are in doubt, you should refer to the coroners' office.
3. Question 9 requires a description of the events immediately before death, **NOT** just the cause of death.
4. **PLEASE** provide your mobile as a contact number rather than just the hospital switch board or a bleep number, so you can be readily contacted, if needed. This helps reduce potentially distressing and unnecessary delays for families

**ATTENDING TO THESE POINTS WILL ASSIST IN SMOOTH PROCESSING OF THE
CREMATION, WHICH BENEFITS BOTH BUSY DOCTORS AND PATIENTS' RELATIVES**



MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

This form can only be completed by a registered medical practitioner.
 Please complete this form in full, if a part does not apply enter 'N/A'.

Part 1 Details of the deceased

Full name

Address

	Postcode								
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Occupation or last occupation if retired or not in work at date of death

Where a past occupation of the deceased person may suggest that the death was due to industrial disease, you should consider whether to refer the death to a coroner.

Part 2 The report on the deceased

1 What was the date and time of death of the deceased?

Date / / Time

2 Please give the address where the deceased died.

	Postcode								
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Please state whether it was the residence of the person who has died or a hotel, hospital, or nursing home, etc.

Their home Hospital Other (please specify)

Hotel Nursing Home

3 Are you a relative of the deceased?

If Yes, please give the nature of your relationship.

4 Have you, so far as you are aware, any pecuniary interest in the death of the deceased? Yes No

If Yes, please give details.

5 Were you the deceased's usual medical practitioner? Yes No

If Yes, please state how long

If No, please give details of your medical role in relation to the deceased.

6 Please state for how long you attended the deceased during their last illness?

7 Please state the number of days and hours before the deceased's death that you last saw them alive?

Days

Hours

8 Please state the date and time that you saw the body of the deceased and the examination that you made of the body.

Date / / Time

Examination

9 From your medical notes, and the observations of yourself and others immediately before and at the time of the deceased's death, please describe the symptoms and other conditions which led to your conclusions about the cause of death.

10 If the deceased died in a hospital at which they were an in-patient, has a hospital post-mortem examination been made or supervised by a registered medical practitioner of at least five years' standing who is neither a relative of the deceased nor a relative of yours or a partner or colleague in the same practice or clinical team as you? Yes No

If Yes, are the results of that examination known to you? Yes No

Note: 'Five years' standing' means a medical practitioner who has been a fully registered person within the meaning of the Medical Act 1983 for at least five years and, if paragraph 10 of Schedule 1 to the Medical Act 1983 (Amendment) Order 2002 (S.I. 2002/3135) has come into force, has held a licence to practice for at least five years or since the coming into force of that paragraph.

11 Please give the cause of death

1 (a) Disease or condition directly leading to death (this does not mean the mode of dying, such as heart failure, asphyxia, asthenia, etc: it means the disease, injury, or complication which caused death)

(b) Other disease or condition, if any, leading to (a)

(c) Other disease or condition, if any, leading to (b)

2 Other significant conditions contributing to the death but not related to the disease or condition causing it.

12 Did the deceased undergo any operation in the year before their death?

If Yes, what was the date and nature of the operation and who performed it?

Date of operation

 / /

Who performed it?

Nature of operation

13 Do you have any reason to believe that the operation(s) shortened the life of the deceased? Yes No

If Yes, please give details.

14 Please give the full name and address details of any person who nursed the deceased during their last illness (Say whether professional nurse, relative, etc. If the illness was a long one, this question should be answered with reference to the period of four weeks before the death.)

15 Were there any persons present at the moment of death? Yes No

If Yes, please give the full name and address details of those persons and whether you have spoken to them about the death.

16 If there were persons present at the moment of death, did those persons have any concerns regarding the cause of death? Yes No

If Yes, please details.

17 In view of your knowledge of the deceased's habits and constitution do you have any doubts whatever about the character of the disease or condition which led to the death? Yes No

18 Have you any reason to suspect that the death of the deceased was violent? Yes No
unnatural? Yes No

19 Have you any reason at all to suppose a further examination of the body is desirable? Yes No

If you have answered Yes to questions, 17, 18 or 19 please give details below:

20 Has a coroner been informed about the death? Yes No

If Yes, please state the outcome.

21 Has there been any discussion with a coroner's office about the death of the deceased? Yes No

If Yes, please state the coroner's office that was contacted and the outcome of the discussions.

22 Have you given the certificate required for registration of death? Yes No

If No, please give the full name and contact details of the medical practitioner who has.

Full name

Telephone number

Address

Postcode

23 Was any implant placed in the body which may become hazardous when the body is cremated (e.g. a pacemaker, cochlear implant, radioactive device or 'Fixion' intramedullary nailing system)? Yes No

Implants may damage cremation equipment if not removed from the body of the deceased before cremation and some radioactive treatments may endanger the health of crematorium staff.

If Yes, has it been removed?

Yes No

Part 3 Statement of truth

I certify that I am a registered medical practitioner.

I certify that the information I have given above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and that I know of no reasonable cause to suspect that the deceased died either a violent or unnatural death or a sudden death of which the cause is unknown or in a place or circumstance which requires an inquest in pursuance of any Act.

I am aware that it is an offence to wilfully make a false statement with a view to procuring the cremation of any human remains.

Your Full name

Telephone number

Address

Postcode

Registered qualifications

GMC Reference number

Signed

Dated

 / /

Once completed, this certificate must be handed or sent in a closed envelope by, or on behalf of, the medical practitioner who signs it to the medical practitioner who is to give the confirmatory medical certificate except in a case where question 10 is answered in the affirmative, in which case the certificate must be so handed or sent to the medical referee at the cremation authority at which the cremation is to take place.

If you require this information in large print or in any other format, please contact us on 01892 526121