



## Reporting COVID-19 Deaths

12-2020

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### COVID-19 Death Case Definition

A novel coronavirus-associated death is defined for surveillance purposes as a death resulting from a clinically compatible illness that was confirmed to be COVID-19 by an appropriate laboratory test. There should be no period of complete recovery between the date of COVID-19 diagnosis and the date of death.

A death should **NOT** be reported if any of the following are true:

1. There is no laboratory or other diagnostic confirmation of SARS-CoV-2 virus infection
2. Novel coronavirus illness is followed by full recovery to baseline health status prior to death
3. After review and consultation there is an alternative agreed upon cause of death

Laboratory testing for SARS-CoV-2 infection can be from pre- or post-mortem clinical specimens.

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### COVID-19 Death Case Definition

**Guidance for Implementation of COVID-19 associated deaths case definition:**

- ◊ This is a SURVEILLANCE case definition, not a medical definition.
- ◊ A death certificate is NOT needed. Under North Carolina's current surveillance case definition, it is possible both for someone to meet the case definition to be counted as a COVID-19 associated death and not have COVID-19 listed on the death certificate, and for someone to have COVID-19 on their death certificate and not be counted as a COVID-19 death. The determination of whether a case is a COVID-19 associated death for surveillance purposes is a public health decision, while the causes of death on the death certificate is the determination of the physician or medical examiner.
- COVID-19 does not have to be a direct cause of death for a death to be COVID-19 associated. The key question is: would this person have died at this time if they had not had COVID-19? Or did COVID-19 in some way hasten their death? If they might have lived longer, then it is a COVID-19 associated death.
- If a person is mentally or physically incapacitated and unable to be interviewed or the interview is questionable, then symptoms of COVID are difficult to determine. This should be counted as a death unless there was another non-COVID-19 cause of death (e.g. trauma).
- ◊ If you determine a case is not a COVID-19 death, documentation should be provided in the notes or the discharge summary or death report can be attached to the event if they are available.

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### Clinical package - Clinical Outcome

- ❖ Clinical Outcomes: Clinical Outcome / Died from this Illness / Location of Death / Died in NC / County of Death / Date of Death
  - If the person has died from COVID-19, update the Clinical Outcome to Died, Indicate Died from this Illness = Yes, and the Location of Death, State and County where the person died

## Clinical outcome	Died	▼
## Died from this illness	Yes	▼
## Location of death	Hospital inpatient	▼
## Patient died in North Carolina	Yes	▼
## County of death	Wake County	▼
## Date of Death (update in Person Tab)	09/08/2020	

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### Person Tab- Update with Death

- ❖ Update Date of Death in Person Tab - updates Clinical Tab

Edit Person	
First Name:	Testy
Middle Name:	
Last Name:	Tester
Suffix:	
Maiden/Other Name:	
Alias:	
Birth Date:	01/01/1980
Death Date:	09/08/2020
Living Status:	Dead

## Clinical outcome	Died	▼
## Died from this illness	Yes	▼
## Location of death	Hospital inpatient	▼
## Patient died in North Carolina	Yes	▼
## County of death	Wake County	▼
## Date of Death (update in Person Tab)	09/08/2020	

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### Event Dashboard- Update Disease to Coronavirus Death event

- ❖ For patients that die, change the event Disease to Coronavirus Death

Event Summary	
<b>Basic Information</b>	
Event ID:	101784144
Disease:	Coronavirus (COVID-19)
Person:	Testy Test, Birth Date: 01/01/1980 (40 Female)
Type:	Interactive
Investigation Status:	Open
Linked Events/Contacts:	0 linked event(s)/contact(s) (View)
Attachments:	0 attachment(s) (Add)
Notifications:	Classification: Confirmed
	County of residence: Mecklenburg County
	Active outbreak: Northampton COVID19
	PineForestResHome March 2020 (Link to Outbreak) (Open)
<a href="#">Edit Event Properties</a>	

From the event dashboard, click the "Edit Event Properties" button

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### Event Dashboard- Update Disease to Coronavirus Death event

- For patients that die, change the event Disease to Coronavirus Death

- From the dropdown selection for "Change Disease to", Select 'Coronavirus death (COVID-19D)'
- Then click the "Save" button

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### Event Dashboard- Update Disease to Coronavirus Death event

- Coronavirus Death (COVID-19D) should show now

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### Administrative pkg - Report to the State - (+) PCR labs

- For COVID-19, for events confirmed with a positive (+) PCR lab test, when you report the event to the State, please assign to the "State Disease Registrar" with the reason "Assign to the State" and ensure that you have set the classification status to "Confirmed"

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## Administrative pkg - Report to the State - (+) Ag labs

- ❖ For COVID-19, for events confirmed with a positive (+) Antigen lab test, when you report the event to the State, please assign to the "State Disease Registrar" with the reason "Assign to the State" and ensure that you have set the classification status to "Probable"

Investigation Trail: Add a new entry for each group to which the event transfers during the investigation

# Date Assigned/Reassigned:	10/21/2020	Add New	Local patient identifier	
# Group: (You cannot change your group selection unless you clear this entry by erasing the Date Assigned)	State Disease Registrar		Phone number	(919) 546-1607
# Select the reason for the assignment/reassignment	Assign to State			
# Authorized Reporter	Christy Crowley			
# Classification status	Probable			
Name	HAG			

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## NCEDSS

- ❖ Questions- please contact your TATP nurse



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