

PRECAUTION AND DEAD BODY CARE

AT THE TIME OF DEATH

- The dead body is classified by the attending physician as category risk
- Wear Protective Clothing: gloves, water resistant gown / plastic apron over water repellent gown, and surgical mask. Use goggles or face shield to protect eyes, if there is a risk of splashes.
- All tubes, drains, and catheters attached to the dead body should be removed.
- Contact with members of the family should be kept to a minimum and the bereaved family should wear personal protective clothing (PPE).

PRECAUTION AND DEAD BODY CARE

Handling the deceased

- The dead body should be first placed in a robust and leak-proof transparent plastic bag of not less than 150 µm thick, which should be zippered closed.
- A second layer of cover is required. The bagged body should be either wrapped with a mortuary sheet or placed in an opaque body bag.
- The outside of the body bag should be wiped with 1 in 4 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 4 parts of water) and allow to air dry material.

Mortuary

- All dead bodies must be identified and correctly labelled with identity labels and category tags.
- Disinfect the trolleys the body is transported in.
- Special precautions for autopsies to be observed.

PRECAUTION AND DEAD BODY CARE - HANDLING THE DECEASED

Funeral Workers

- Avoid direct contact with blood or body fluids from the dead body.
- Move the body as prepared by the Mortuary Staff
- Observe strict personal hygiene and put on appropriate PPE
- Where the body is to be stored in the Mosque mortuary follow the guidance for the mortuary in respect of handling and storing the body.
- Once the body is transported wipe down the stretcher and the inside section of the van with 1 in 4 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 4 parts of water) and allow to air dry
- Remove PPE after handling of the dead body. Then, wash hands with liquid soap and water immediately.
- Do NOT smoke, drink or eat. Do NOT touch your eyes, mouth or nose.

PREPARING THE BODY FOR FUNERAL

WASHING THE BODY

- Avoid direct contact with blood or body fluids from the dead body.
- Observe strict personal hygiene and put on appropriate PPE
- Make sure any wounds are covered with waterproof bandages or dressings.
- Remove from the plastic bag and dispose bag. Wash the body as normal (Ghusl)

SHROUDING

- Place the body in a robust and **leak-proof transparent plastic bag** of not less than 150 µm thick, which should be zippered closed.
- Wipe the outside of the body with diluted bleach.
- **Shroud the body as normal** over the body bag.
- Place the body in the coffin and close the lid.
- Wipe the outside of the coffin 1 in 4 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 4 parts of water) and allow to air dry

PREPARING THE BODY FOR FUNERAL

PAYING LAST RESPECTS

- Viewing can be arranged in mortuary parlour. Family members will need to use appropriate PPE.
- If viewing is at the Mosque after shrouding, keep the body in the coffin, open the shroud around the face as normal, and viewing through the transparent bag is advisable.
- Once families have paid their respect, re-shroud the face and replace the coffin lid.
- Ensure all in contact use PPE
- Wipe down the coffin before moving for janazah

JANAZAH

- Janazah Prayer can take place as normal – although may be advisable to have the janazah at the Cemetery.
- Those handling the coffin to wear appropriate PPE

BURIAL

- Keep the number of people handling the coffin to a minimum. All handling the coffin to wear appropriate PPE
- Undertake the burial as normal.
- It is recommended to bury in a body bag / coffin.

NOTE:

The above is based on current guidance and advice from the Department of Health which may change. We will review this guidance accordingly.

The Chief Coroners Guidance at the moment is that all death from COVID-19 will be treated as normal deaths.