

Office of the Chief Coroner
Ontario Forensic Pathology Service

Bureau du coroner en chef
Service de médecine légale de l'Ontario



Forensic Services and
Coroners Complex
25 Morton Shulman Avenue
Toronto ON M3M 0B1

Complexe des sciences judiciaires
et du coroner
25, Avenue Morton Shulman
Toronto ON M3M 0B1

Telephone: (416) 314-4000
Facsimile: (416) 314-4030

Téléphone: (416) 314-4000
Télécopieur: (416) 314-4030

C24-023

MEMORANDUM TO: All Long-Term Care (LTC) Homes

FROM: Rejean Duwyn, Regional Supervising Coroner,

DATE: Operations February 26, 2024

SUBJECT: Resident Death Notification (RDN)

It has come to our attention that some Long-Term Care (LTC) homes staff have received direction from coroners regarding completion of the RDN that differs from the direction provided to the LTC homes through the educational sessions and supporting materials. The inconsistent information is regarding questions 2-4 that ask if dehydration, malnutrition, pressure ulcers and contractures were present at the time of death or at the time of transfer to hospital.

When completing the RDN, the answer should be 'yes' if these conditions were present at the time of death or transfer to hospital, even if the resident was receiving palliative or end-of-life care.

The analysis of the RDN data currently underway includes reviewing the effectiveness of each of the questions. This could result in changes to future versions of the form. Coroners have been reminded that, until such time, they need to comply with the standard form provided.

If you have questions about the RDN form and how it should be completed, you can contact the CI team at coronerinvestigator@ontario.ca or by calling 1-855-299-4100 and selecting the option for RDN forms. If you have feedback regarding suggestions for future versions of the RDN form, please provide them to me at Rejean.Duwyn@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rejean Duwyn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rejean Duwyn, MD
Regional Supervising Coroner, Operations