



Imminent Death Notification Guide

24 Hour Notification Line: 800-831-4131

Purpose of Notification Call: IDN to determine patient's suitability for organ donation

Regulatory Responsibility: CMS 482.45 **Condition of Participation:** Organ, Tissue, & Eye Procurement

1. Notify Iowa Donor Network (IDN) of all imminent deaths
 2. Notify IDN of all ED and in-patient deaths
 3. All families of potential donors must be given the opportunity to donate
 4. Individual that offers donation opportunity must be a designated requestor* who has completed training on how to approach families (*see *Donation Conversation section below*)
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Imminent Death Notification Process:

Notify IDN within 2-4 hours of a ventilated patient meeting one of the following criteria

- Missing 2 or more brain stem reflexes
 - Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) ≤ 5
 - Plans to extubate patient for end-of-life cares
 - Family asks about organ donation
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After the Notification Call:

1. A Donation Services Specialist will call you back to obtain patient's medical information
 2. Based on that information IDN may:
 - a. Come to the hospital for further assessment
 - b. Follow by phone
 - c. Notify you to call back with time of death for tissue donor screening
 3. Communicate the following to IDN immediately:
 - a. Changes in patient status
 - b. Loss of additional brain stem reflexes or brain death testing planned
 - c. Family making end-of-life decisions
 - d. Patient cardiac arrests on ventilator
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Donation Conversation:

CMS requires that only trained designated requestors approach families for donation

IDN serves as the hospital's designated requestor for donation. As a hospital staff member you do not have to discuss donation with the family. IDN is trained and ready to handle all communication regarding donation.

Recommended response if family brings up donation:

"I am not an expert in donation but I will contact Iowa Donor Network right now to ensure that they can answer your questions."

Working together to transform lives through organ and tissue donation.
For more information visit www.IowaDonorNetwork.org