

Completion of Medical Certificates of Death after an Assisted Death: An Environmental Scan of Practices

Produire un certificat médical de décès dans les cas d'aide médicale à mourir : analyse du contexte des pratiques

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Table 3.

Country	Death certificate/reporting information	Information source
Belgium	<p>Euthanasia-/physician-assisted death is not apparent on the death certificate.</p> <p>Euthanasia-related deaths are reported to a Federal Control and Evaluation Commission, and the Commission determines if euthanasia was performed in accordance with the legislation.</p> <p>Manner of death is considered natural.</p>	<p>Euthanasia and assisted suicides: The law in selected countries.</p> <p>E-mail communication with network of end-of-life researchers.</p> <p>Loi Relative à l'Euthanasie BS 2002 as translated in Dale Kidd, "The Belgian Act on Euthanasia of May, 28th 2002</p> <p>Downie and Chandler (2016) Appendix 2</p>
The Netherlands	<p>Physician notifies the municipal pathologist. Municipal pathologist undertakes an investigation, and if in accordance with the law, issues a declaration of no objection to the public prosecutor and sends the documents to the regional euthanasia review committee. The death is then registered.</p> <p>Death is considered unnatural (with sub-choices of euthanasia, assistance in suicide or other) in addition to the underlying disease.</p>	<p>Euthanasia and assisted suicides: The law in selected countries.</p> <p>E-mail communication with network of end-of-life researchers.</p> <p>Downie and Oliver (2016) Appendix 2</p> <p>Regional Euthanasia Review Committees (English)</p> <p>Netherlands Law: Act containing review procedure for the termination of life on request and assisted suicide and amendment of the Criminal Code and Burial and Cremation Act.</p>
Switzerland	<p>Deaths are investigated by the police, an attorney and a physician from the Institute of Forensic Medicine to determine if Article 115 of the Swiss Criminal Code was violated.</p> <p>Cause of death is listed as intoxication by ingestion of barbiturates. Death is considered non-natural.</p> <p>Manner of death is listed as assisted suicide (separate from suicide).</p>	<p>EXIT: FAQ What the procedure for physician assisted suicides?</p> <p>Dignitas' Advisory Work: Plan Ahead and Prepare, the Swiss model of assisted dying (page 21)</p> <p>E-mail communication with EXIT physician.</p>