



Overview

In 2016, Colorado voters approved Proposition 106, "Access to Medical Aid In Dying," which amends Colorado statutes to include the Colorado End-of-life Options Act. The law also provides direction on completing medical information on death certificates.

Completing the Death Record

Colorado Revised Statute 25-48-109. Death Certificate. (1) Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the attending physician or the hospice medical director shall sign the death certificate of a qualified individual who obtained and self-administered aid-in-dying medication. (2) When a death has occurred in accordance with this article, the cause of death shall be listed as the underlying terminal illness and the death does not constitute grounds for post-mortem inquiry under section 30-10-606(1), C.R.S.

Signing the Death Record

Colorado law allows for the following to certify to a cause of death:

- Attending physician
- Hospice medical director
- Facility chief medical officer
- Physician with knowledge of the case
- Physician in charge of the patient's care for the illness or condition
- Best qualified source or person available (physician)
- Coroner or deputy coroner

Registering the Death Record

Should the cause of death not follow the above for completion, the record will be registered; however, follow-up may be done with the funeral home and/or medical certifier to determine if they had the above knowledge and/or wish to amend the record.

Contacts

If you have questions about death record completion, please contact cdphe.vitalrecords411@state.co.us. Secure email may be used by visiting <https://web1.zixmail.net/s/welcome.jsp?b=stateofcolorado>.

Detailed information, requirements and forms related to medical-aid-in-dying are available at: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/medical-aid-dying>