

Maryland Electronic Death Registration System (MD-EDRS)

As many of you already know, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is in the process of implementing the Maryland Electronic Death Registration System (MD-EDRS) in Maryland medical facilities and funeral establishments. MD-EDRS is a web-based application that medical certifiers and funeral directors use to file death records, and is replacing an outdated paper-based system. An electronic death registration system benefits the funeral homes and medical facilities that complete death certificates, family members who need death certificates quickly for benefit resolution, and agencies that need fact of death information quickly in order to prevent payment of benefits to deceased individuals. The availability of an electronic death registration system is also critical for public health purposes since fact of death and cause of death information is available much more quickly than is possible with a paper-based death registration system.

Medical certifiers may access MD-EDRS from any computer 24 hours a day, seven days a week, so death records may be prepared anywhere, any time. Electronic signatures allow medical certifiers to sign certificates from any location, so there is no longer a need to sign a paper copy certificate, and changes and corrections can be made easily.

Please watch for the implementation of MD-EDRS in your facility and support Maryland's transition from a paper-based to an electronic death registration system. The system is simple to use, and help desk assistance is available from DHMH staff seven days a week. For more information on MD-EDRS, please go to:
<http://dhmh.maryland.gov/vsa/Pages/EDRS.aspx>.