



(Affix identification label here)

Life Extinct Form

URN:

Family name:

Given name(s):

Address:

Facility:

Date of birth:

Sex: M F I

This form is only completed when a Cause of Death Certificate is not likely to be issued expeditiously. When a cause of death certificate exists, a life extinct form is not required.

- It must be documented in the person's clinical record / transport notes that the death has occurred.
- This form allows mortuary staff, funeral directors and police to remove and transport a person who is deceased.

CORONER'S CASE

Is the death reportable to the Coroner under the **Coroner's Act 2003**? Yes No

If 'Yes', under which category of reportable death: (please tick one below) (see over for definitions)

- Unknown person
- Violent or unnatural (including trauma)
- Happened in suspicious circumstances
- Death was healthcare related
- A cause of death certificate not likely to be issued (cause unknown)
- Death in care
- Death in custody or as a result of police operations

Coroner or Police Officer / Station notified of death:

If 'No', state name of doctor issuing death certificate:

LIFE EXTINCT CERTIFICATION

Location of examination: _____ Date: / / Time: : (24 hour clock)

This is an obvious death (see over for definition*)

or

I have completed the following assessments and there is:

(please tick boxes below identifying clinical determination of death; all boxes must be ticked to certify death)

- No palpable carotid pulse
- No heart sounds heard for 30 seconds
- No breath sounds heard for 30 seconds
- No response to centralised stimuli
- Fixed dilated pupils

and

I declare life to be extinct.

CERTIFYING PERSON DETAILS (please print)

Name:

Position title:

- Medical Practitioner** (A medical practitioner, as defined in the *Medical Practitioners Registration Act 2001*)
- Registered Nurse** (A registered nurse, as defined in the *Nursing Act 1992*)
- Paramedic** (A paramedic, an ambulance officer as defined in the *Ambulance Service Act 1991* and employed as a paramedic)
- Police Officer** (A police officer, as defined in the *Police Service Administration Act 1990*) (only for cases of obvious death – see over for details*)

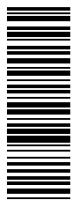
Signature:

Date: / /

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Life Extinct Form

Reportable Deaths to the Coroner

Under the *Coroners Act 2003*, the following are reportable deaths to the Coroner. The local Coroner or the local Queensland Police station must be contacted to report the death under the Coroners Act. For more information please go to: www.justice.qld.gov.au/courts/coroner/home

Reportable death categories (Section 8)

- a) It is not known who the person is; **or**
- b) the death was violent or otherwise unnatural death; **or**
- c) the death happened in suspicious circumstances; **or**
- d) the death was a healthcare related death; **or**
- e) a cause of death certificate has not been issued, and is not likely to be issued, for the person, **or**
- f) the death was a death in care; **or**
- g) the death was a death in custody; **or**
- h) the death occurred as a result of police operations.

Definition of death in care (Section 9)

These deaths can be conveniently classified into 3 categories depending on whether the person:

- had a disability as defined in s5 of the *Disability Services Act 1992* (“the DSA”); **or**
- was subject to involuntary assessment or treatment under the *Mental Health Act 2000* (“the MHA”); **or**
- was a child in the care or under the guardianship of the Department of Child Safety.

Definition of death in custody (Section 10)

The term is defined in s10 to include those who are at the time of their death:

- actually in custody, trying to escape from custody or trying to avoid being put into custody.
- “Custody is defined to mean detention under arrest or the authority of a court order or an Act by a police officer or Corrective Services officer, court officers or other law enforcement personnel.

Definition of healthcare related deaths (Section 10AA)

“Healthcare” is defined to mean a health procedure or any care, treatment or advice, service or goods provided for or purportedly for the benefit of human health. Health procedure means any dental, medical, surgical or other health related procedure, including for example the administration of an anaesthetic, analgesic, sedative or other drug. A death is healthcare related if (a) the healthcare caused or contributed to the death and immediately before the healthcare was provided an independent person would not have expected the death to occur; or (b) a failure to provide healthcare caused or contributed to the death and at the time the healthcare was sought an independent person would not have expected that there would be a failure to provide healthcare that would cause or contribute to the death occurring. Healthcare causes or contributes to a person’s death if the person would not have died at that time without the healthcare being provided. A failure to provide healthcare causes or contributes to death if the person would not have died at that time if the healthcare had been provided. The reference to an independent person means a person qualified in the relevant area of healthcare who has regard to all relevant matters including the person’s state of health, the clinically accepted range of risk and the circumstances in which healthcare was provided or sought.

* **Obvious death – where Queensland Police may issue Life Extinct Form**

“Obvious deaths” are those where the state of the body is clearly incompatible with life:

- **Severe incineration** has caused charring and blackening of most of the body surface, with exposure of underlying tissues in some areas; **or**
- **Extensive trauma** has caused decapitation, severance of the torso, disruption of a vital organ (e.g. brain), or fragmentation of the body; **or**
- **Well established decomposition** has caused extensive discolouration of the skin, bloating of the body, and, in some cases, larval infestation and partial exposure of bones; **or**
- **Advanced decomposition** has exposed most of the skeleton, so called “skeletal remains”.

In obvious deaths, police officers (as well as doctors, registered nurses and paramedics) may issue a Life Extinct Form. This is the ONLY category in which police officers may issue a Life Extinct Form.

“Obvious deaths” associated with trauma or burns are reportable to the Coroner.

“Obvious deaths” associated with decomposition **may not** need to be reported if identification can be achieved, if a doctor can issue a certificate (Form 9) with an opinion as to a natural cause of death, and if the death is not otherwise reportable (see section 8 of the *Coroners Act 2003*).

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BINDING MARGIN

**IF ANY DOUBT EXISTS THAT A PERSON IS DEAD,
EMERGENCY RESUSCITATION ATTEMPTS SHOULD BE COMMENCED**