

## What to do if a patient dies in your long term care facility of what you know/suspect is Covid 19 ( from coroners office March 19, 2020)

1. Covid 19 is considered natural causes and Coroner does not need to be called
2. Only the first cases are swabbed to determine if Covid.is in your facility. No need for post-mortem swab if it has already been determined that you have an outbreak.( 4 to 6 swabs initially)
3. **However!** *If a sudden death before you know you have an outbreak- **do a portmortem swab** . Could be COVID death and do not want to delay outbreak declaration for your facility .*
4. **Stop** and tell your staff not to be afraid. This is expected. Sad, but expected.
5. Contact the medical coordinator for your facility.- medical coordinators should be informing Dr. Michelle Weizel our GEO 3 lead 250-737-2619 and Medical officer of Health Dr. Shannon Waters -250-850-2100 ex 45528  
After hours : 1-800-204-6166 fax 250-519-3441  
Call me if you need to talk to someone: Stacey 250-701-7487
6. Site leaders: if you have someone to report a Covid 19 death to please add their name here:  
VIHA LTC sites: Carmela Vezza/infection control      Affiliates: Catrin Brodie/
7. **Staff to use universal precautions .Slow down, gown up , be careful. Don/doff as you know how after reviewing the videos on the Island Health Covid site.**
8. **MARK the shroud with COVID, the patients name and date of birth with a sharpie** so the funeral home does not need to open the body bag. Some sites are getting tags, apparently
9. The family will need to be called .

Dr. Stacey McDonald  
GEO 3 LTC lead

Medical Coordinators:

Cairnsmore: Dr. Valorie Masuda 250-818-219  
Cerwydden- Dr. Stacey McDonald 250-701-7487  
Chemainus- Dr. Murray Archdekin: 250-246-0460  
Sunridge: Dr Dalton Chen -250250-710-8810  
Acacia: -Dr. Bill Reynolds -250-715-8522  
Cowichan Lodge Srs Unit – Dr.Stacey McDonald 250-701-7487  
Oyster Harbour- Dr. Emily Steeves 250-327-8182  
Saltspring: Dr. David Butcher 778-349-3792

Alternates – if stuck and cannot reach above for your site (try in order)

Dr.Stacey McDonald 250-701-7487  
Dr. Graham Brockley 250-732-2628  
Dr.Andrea Wilhelm -250-626-7214