



Emergency Department Flowchart

UNEXPECTED DEATHS in INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD

Baby/Child found lifeless – Ambulance called by 999
Ambulance informs Emergency Department

- Emergency Dept triage nurse receiving call, notes time, and notifies:
- Senior Emergency Dept resus team – prepares equipment and drugs
 - Paediatric Registrar – Informs Consultant
 - Nurse allocated for parents (experienced, trained)
 - Ward Clerk orders child and parent medical records from store, for immediate delivery

AMBULANCE ARRIVES EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Emergency Department Resus Room

- Attempt resuscitation
- Preliminary History
- Preliminary Examination
- Obtain laboratory specimens
- Rectal temperature and time
- Most senior doctor discusses with team and parents prior to stopping resuscitation

Parents

- Greet at door
- Quiet room
- Offer to view resuscitation accompanied
- Offer Chaplain

Emergency Department Following Resuscitation:

- Senior Paediatrician declares dead and notifies Police/Coroner
- If Coroner agrees, may wipe face, remove ET tube (after visualisation) and IV cannulae
- Complete paediatric examination
- Clothing removal must follow police protocol
- Put on clean nappy. Wrap in hospital baby blanket

Parents

- Carry baby into room in arms as a baby
- Refer to baby by name
- Give baby to parents to hold but supervise at all times

Parents interviewed by Paediatrician and Police to obtain full history
Consider health and child protection needs of family

Complete Documentation
Complete Notification (Checklist)

Multi-agency strategy discussion

Staff debrief

Caring for the Family

Mementos and photos
Procedural Information
Bereavement support

Parents return home; arrangements for home visit

Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy - Checklist

Child's details

NAME:

DOB: DOD:

Address

Name of Paediatrician

Name of staff member supporting parent(s)

Name of Police officer in charge

ACTION	Y/N/NA	DATE	TIME	ACTIONED BY
Consultant Paediatrician called				
Police Child Protection team informed Name:				
Coroner's Officer informed Name:				
Specialist Paediatrician called Name:				
Initial history taken and recorded				
Soiled or wet nappy bagged labelled and stored				
Sites of vascular access during resuscitation documented				
Detailed physical examination of child				
Body map I diagrams				
Photographs				
Samples taken sent for examination Details:				
Children's social care enquiries made				
GP Informed				
HV informed				
Hospital chaplain or other religious leader contacted if appropriate				
Child Health Computer and hospital PAS system informed				
Mementoes taken for parents Hair Footprint Handprint Photograph Information on bereavement support and contact details given to parents				

- Y - YES, N- No, NA - not applicable

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Department for Children, Schools and Families

Sanctuary Buildings

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