

## Authority to Collect Deceased Bodies

**Summary** This Information Bulletin provides information on the documentation requirements for the release of a deceased body.

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**Functional group** Clinical/Patient Services - Human Tissue, Medical Treatment

**Applies to** Ministry of Health, Local Health Districts, Board Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Chief Executive Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Specialty Network Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Affiliated Health Organisations, NSW Health Pathology, Public Health System Support Division, Public Hospitals

**Distributed to** Ministry of Health, Public Health System, NSW Ambulance Service, Private Hospitals and Day Procedure Centres

**Audience** All Staff of NSW Health

## AUTHORITY TO COLLECT DECEASED BODIES

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Information Bulletin is to inform NSW Health public health facilities of the requirement for an *Authority to Collect Deceased Form* (SMR020.210) to be completed by the deceased's next of kin and by the funeral director prior to release of a deceased body.

### KEY INFORMATION

The Form is designed to enforce accountable processes of collecting deceased persons from NSW Health mortuaries, with approval by the executor or next of kin (as defined under the [Human Tissue Act 1983](#) and the [Coroners Act 2009](#)).

The *Authority to Collect Deceased Form* is a mandated State Form available from the State Catalogue as a PDF and self-print. It is not available to order from the State Catalogue.

The form should be available for NSW Health facilities to provide a hard copy and to send electronically as a PDF to funeral directors when required.