

DEATH CERTIFICATES

Acceptable examples of natural* causes of death:

- Advanced age (if they are old, acceptable, but more specific is preferred)
- Cerebrovascular accident due to atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease
- Coronary artery disease
- Ischemic heart disease
- Myocardial infarction (acceptable but it's preferred if a cause, such as ASCVD, is listed)
- Renal failure due to diabetes
- Ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysm
- Sequelae of dementia due to probable Alzheimer's Disease
- Sepsis due to pneumonia due to chronic alcoholism
- Sepsis due pneumonia due to cystic fibrosis
- Viral syndrome

*All non-natural causes of death should be referred to the OCME for completion of the death certificate.

Not Acceptable: *The causes below must all be more specific or due to something.*

- Aspiration pneumonia (Acceptable: Aspiration pneumonia due to chronic alcoholism)
- Atrial fibrillation (Acceptable: Atrial fibrillation due to atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease)
- Cardiac arrest (Acceptable: Cardiac arrest due to ischemic heart disease)
- Cardiac disease (Acceptable: Hypertensive and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease)
- Cardiomyopathy (Acceptable: Dilated cardiomyopathy due to chronic alcoholism)
- Cerebrovascular accident (Acceptable: Cerebrovascular accident due to hypertensive cardiovascular disease)
- Cirrhosis (Acceptable: Cirrhosis due to chronic alcoholism)
- Congestive heart failure (Acceptable: Congestive heart failure due to hypertensive and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease)
- Dementia (Acceptable: Sequelae of dementia of unknown type; Failure to thrive due to dementia due to probable Alzheimer's disease")
- Failure to thrive (Acceptable: Failure to thrive due to advanced age)
- Immunocompromised state (Acceptable: Sepsis due to immunocompromised state due to chemotherapy due to breast cancer)
- Pneumonia (Acceptable: Sepsis due to pneumonia due to chronic alcoholism)
- Renal failure (Acceptable: Renal failure due to diabetes)
- Respiratory failure (Acceptable: Respiratory failure due to pneumonia due to cystic fibrosis)
- Sepsis (Acceptable: Sepsis due to endocarditis due to intravenous drug abuse)
- Sepsis due to pneumonia (Acceptable: Sepsis due to pneumonia due to advanced age)

Not Acceptable: *The order of causes of death is important and must make sense (Line A is due to Line B which is due to Line C....)*

- Lung cancer due to pneumonia (Acceptable: Pneumonia due to lung cancer)
- Bladder cancer due to urosepsis (Acceptable: Urosepsis due to bladder cancer)

- Coronary artery disease due to bladder cancer (Acceptable: Part I: Coronary artery disease, Part II: bladder cancer or vice versa)