

# Child Death Pathway for GPs Lambeth and Southwark July 2019

## Notification of Child Death to GP

Notification to GP of Child Death will normally be reported by Child Death Co-ordinator from relevant hospital.

Shortly after you receive Notification you should receive a request for a Reporting Form (formerly known as a Form B) from Child Death Administrator based at Southwark (for Southwark & Lambeth) . This blank Reporting Form will be attached to the request e-mail.

## What Information should GP give on the Reporting Form?

GP should give as much information on child, parents and siblings where relevant.

Neonate deaths will need information specifically on parents and siblings as GP will not have seen baby/child but information on family members could be relevant to the death of the baby. Completed Reporting Form to be sent back to relevant Child Death Administrator as soon as possible. Although it is good practice to obtain consent to share information about parents, in these emotive circumstances this may not be readily possible, and so relevant safeguarding information should be shared in line with WTSC 2018 and GMC/BMA guidance.

## What if Child Dies at Home with GP in Attendance?

If a child dies at home and GP is called (normally when child is under palliative care) the GP must send Notification to [cdop@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:cdop@southwark.gov.uk) (for both Southwark and Lambeth) . This must be sent within 24 hours after GP has confirmed death. If no Notification form available, please contact [cdop@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:cdop@southwark.gov.uk) urgently asking for one although Practice Manager should have one available on electronic file.

## Reasons for GP Involvement with CDOP Process

CDOP (Child Death Overview Panel) is made up of health, social care, police and community professionals who have a responsibility to establish and understand the cause, circumstances and wider context of a child's death. This Panel can make recommendations that could assist in the prevention of other deaths and improve the health and safety of children in Bromley, Lambeth and Southwark. There may also be broader learning and initiatives relating to a child's death for which we will ask for your co-operation.

For more information please refer to the 2018 Working Together Guidance available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

**Information for GPs and Other Primary Healthcare Professionals**  
Child Death Overview Panel for Bromley, Lambeth and Southwark

Last updated 10 July 2019

**NOTES**

- If a child has died unexpectedly then GP may be asked to attend a Joint Agency Response (JAR) meeting normally within a week of the child's death. If GP is unable to attend this meeting then a report should be sent to the Designated Doctor (or Co-ordinator/Administrator) who has requested information or attendance. This information can be vital for immediate decision making and any future investigations that may take place.
- Independent Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) and Neonate Death Overview Panel (NDOP) meets bi-monthly with a core membership of senior representatives for each Borough e.g. Public Health Associate Director, Designated Paediatrician, Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children, Detective Inspector from Metropolitan Police, Child Abuse Investigation Team, Senior Children's Social Worker and Local Authority Safeguarding Managers.
- CDOP and NDOP recognises the importance of bereavement support for families and it could be that you are asked if you have given or directed parents/family members to any agency or are aware of support already being given. Information on this would be welcome via the Reporting Form.
- If you have any queries about this process please contact Administrator for Bromley (Hazel Blackman, [hazel.blackman@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:hazel.blackman@bromley.gov.uk)) or for Lambeth & Southwark (Helen Turnage, ([helen.turnage@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:helen.turnage@southwark.gov.uk))).

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