Possible Guidelines on End-of-Life Care

- Recognising the possibility that a patient may be approaching end of life
- Advance care planning
- Resuscitation
- Identifying and addressing any additional or special needs a patient may have, e.g., intellectual disability, reduced capacity, mental health difficulties, significant difficulties in coping
- Communicating between disciplines, teams and hospital and community based
- Referring to specialist palliative care service providers
- Transferring patients home/elsewhere to die
- Responding to patients’ different cultural & religious practices/beliefs
- Use of Interpreters
- Diagnosing dying
- Caring for the dying patient
- Organ Donation
- Care of the deceased patient’s body at the time of death including verification
- Care of the deceased patient’s body after death, including meeting religious of death & last offices
- Care of personal belongings and handover to family and cultural needs
- Transferring a deceased patient to the mortuary/elsewhere
- Supporting families of patients at the end-of-life
- Addressing issues arising from sudden death
- Death notification and death certification
- Providing care and support to parents who experience a miscarriage
- Providing care and support to parents who experience an intra-uterine death, a stillbirth or a neonatal death
- Formal identification of the deceased person and viewing by families
- Post-mortems, including hospital and coroner post mortems, organ/tissue retention, storage and return
- Repatriation of the deceased person's body
- Making funeral arrangements
- Mortuary services/practices
- Burial or cremation by the hospital
- Provision of bereavement care
- Support for staff caring for patients at end of life and their families
Insert hospital specific information