



West Midlands Regional Guidance

COVID-19

Welcome

Opening Remarks

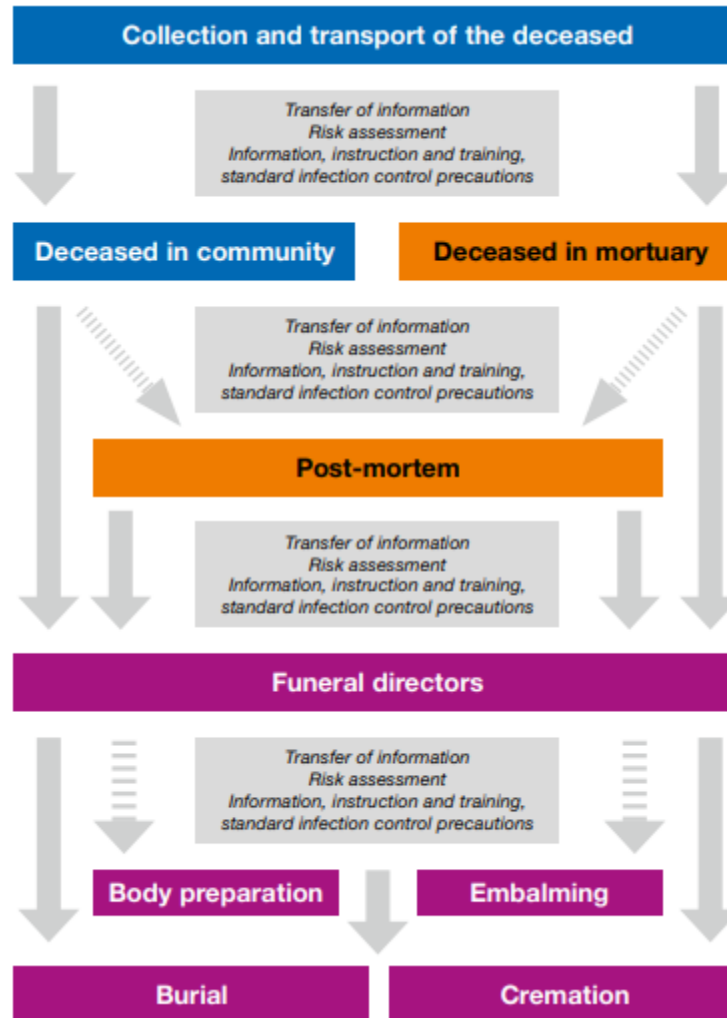
- What today is about...
- Who should be here?
- Housekeeping



Agenda

- 1. WELCOME & RECITATION** **7.00pm**
- 2. BMBC PRESENTATION** **7.15pm**
 - COVID19 National Guidance
 - West Midlands Update
 - Impact on Funeral Directors
 - Possible changes
- 3. Q&A PANEL** **8.20pm**
- 4. CLOSING REMARKS** **8.45pm**

COVID-19





NATIONAL BURIAL COUNCIL



Cabinet Office



Department
of Health &
Social Care



COURTS AND TRIBUNALS JUDICIARY

MCB

The Muslim Council of Britain



BBSI

BRITISH BOARD OF SCHOLARS & IMAMS



BMBC

BIRMINGHAM MUSLIM BURIAL COUNCIL

Capacity

- No. of Birmingham Funeral Directors – c.20
- Maximum No. of Funeral in a day – c.40-60
- No. of storage facilities – c.60
- No. of slot for burial registration in a day – c.8-12
- No. of slots for burial in a day - c.8-12



COVID-19

COVID19 Death
confirmed

Inform BMBC

Decide on acting as
funeral director



COVID-19

Guidance for infection prevention and control in healthcare settings

Adapted from Pandemic Influenza: Guidance for Infection prevention and control in healthcare settings 2020

Issued jointly by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), Public Health Wales (PHW), Public Health Agency (PHA) Northern Ireland, Health Protection Scotland (HPS) and Public Health England as official guidance.

Guidance for infection prevention and control in healthcare settings

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/whan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control>



6.7 Handling dead bodies

The principles of Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs) and Transmission Based Precautions (TBPs) continue to apply whilst deceased individuals remain in the care environment. **This is due to the ongoing risk of infectious transmission via contact although the risk is usually lower than for living patients.** Where the deceased was known or suspected to have been infected with COVID-19, there is no requirement for a body bag, and viewing, hygienic preparations, post-mortem and embalming are all permitted.



Mandatory appendix 12: Application of transmission based precautions to key infections in the deceased

As per [section 2.5](#) of the NIPCM, the principles of SICPs and TBPs continue to apply whilst deceased individuals remain in the care environment. This is due to the ongoing risk of infectious transmission via contact although the risk is usually lower than for living patients. Additional precautions may be required depending on the organism and activities carried out (see table).

Infection	Causative agent	Hazard Group	Is a body bag needed ¹ ?	Can the body be viewed?	Can post mortem be carried out? ²	Can hygienic treatment be carried out? ³	Can embalming be carried out? ²
Airborne: small particles that can remain airborne with potential for transmission by inhalation							
Tuberculosis	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)	MERS coronavirus	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Severe acute respiratory syndromes	e.g. SARS coronavirus	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Droplet: large particles that do not remain airborne for very long and do not travel far from source with potential for transmission via mucocutaneous routes (ie mouth, nose, or eyes)							



1	Name of deceased		
2	Date and time of death		
3	Source (hospital, ward or other)		
4 Infection risk from the deceased¹			
4a	Does the deceased present an infection risk? (Ring as appropriate)		
	Yes	Suspected	None suspected
4b	If yes, what are the likely routes of transmission? (Ring all that apply) ²		
	Airborne	Droplet	Contact
4c	Infection (if permitted to disclose) ³		
4d	Provide any relevant information to enable the deceased to be handled safely ⁴		
5 Condition of the deceased⁵			
5a	Is the deceased leaking body fluids? Please provide details		
5b	Have accessories that present a risk of sharps injury been removed?		
5c	If yes, have the puncture points been covered or sealed?		
5d	If no, please provide details and location		
5e	Does the deceased have an implantable device? (Ring as appropriate)		
	No	Yes and switched off	Yes but not switched off
5f	If yes, please provide details and location		
5g	Was the deceased receiving radiotherapy? (If yes, please provide details)		
6	Signed ⁶		
	Print name		
	Institution		

Hazard Notification Sheet

https://www.hse.gov.uk/pUbns/price_d/hsg283.pdf



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Source: Image from Lighthouse Medical Supplies

****V. IMPORTANT NOTE****

- This is guidance based on latest information available to us.
- The is **not a set of rules or authorisation** to act.
- As more information becomes available we will update you.
- The guidance will change as the situation develops.

1. Collection and Handling of Deceased

- 1 or 2 persons to collect the deceased – using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)- gloves, water resistant gown, surgical mask, goggles and face shield if appropriate
- Check identity labels and category tags and attain positive confirmation that the correct deceased is being collected
- check and confirm all tubes and drains have been removed



1. Collection and Handling of Deceased

If a body bag is required:

- The deceased should be first placed in a robust and leak-proof transparent plastic bag of not less than 150 μm thick, which should be zippered closed.
- A second layer of cover is required. The deceased should be either wrapped with a mortuary sheet or placed in an opaque body bag.
- The outside of the body bag should be wiped with 1 in 4 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 4 parts of water) and allow to air dry material.



2. Transport to facility

- The facility should be isolated and not connected to a public place or place of worship (e.g. mosque).
- Avoid direct contact with blood or body fluids from the deceased.
- Move the deceased as prepared by the Mortuary Staff .
- Observe strict personal hygiene and put on appropriate PPE.
- Where the deceased is to be stored in a Private mortuary follow the guidance for the mortuary in respect of handling and storing the deceased.



2. Transport to facility

- Disinfect the trolleys the used for transporting the deceased
- Wipe down the stretcher and the inside section of the van with 1 in 4 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 4 parts of water) and allow to air dry.
- Remove and dispose of PPE after handling of the deceased. Then, wash hands with liquid soap and water immediately.
- Do NOT smoke, drink or eat. Do NOT touch your eyes, mouth or nose.



3. Washing the deceased (Ghusl)

- Avoid direct contact with blood or bodily fluids from the deceased.
- Observe strict personal hygiene and put on appropriate PPE.
- Make sure any wounds are covered with waterproof bandages or dressings.
- Remove from the body bag and dispose of bag.
- Apply Sterilised facial swabs to cover face to prevent airborne contamination
- Wash the deceased (Ghusl) and ensure flow of water is controlled to drainage



4. Shrouding (Kafn)

- Shroud the deceased as normal.
- **If required**, place the shrouded deceased in a robust and leak-proof transparent plastic bag of not less than 150 μm thick, which should be zipped closed.
- Wipe the outside of the bag with diluted bleach.
- If required, place the deceased inside the coffin and close the lid.
- Wipe the outside of the coffin 1 in 4 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 4 parts of water) and allow to air dry.



5. Paying Last Respects

- Contact with members of the family should be kept to a minimum and the bereaved family should wear personal protective clothing (PPE).
- Once families have paid their respects, re-shroud the face and replace the coffin lid.
- Ensure all in contact use PPE.
- Wipe down the coffin before moving for the Funeral (Janazah) prayer.



6. Funeral (Janazah) Prayer

- Janazah prayer can take place as normal – although it may be advisable to have the Janazah at the Cemetery.
- Those handling the coffin should be kept to a minimum and wear appropriate PPE.

7. Burial

- Keep the number of people handling the coffin to a minimum. All person(s) handling the coffin to wear appropriate PPE.
- Undertake the burial as normal.
- It is recommended to bury in a body bag / coffin.

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Feedback
ideas/issues to
BMBC



Q&A

- Please allow one person to speak at a time