

Scenario	Guidance
<p><b>Death in the residential setting</b> When a resident dies (COVID-19 positive) <b>Coroner Refer to statement from the Coroners Society of Ireland version1. Dated 11/03/2020</b> <a href="http://www.coroners.ie/en/COR/Coroners%20Service%20COVID-19%20110320.pdf/Files/Coroners%20Service%20COVID-19%20110320.pdf">http://www.coroners.ie/en/COR/Coroners%20Service%20COVID-19%20110320.pdf/Files/Coroners%20Service%20COVID-19%20110320.pdf</a> <b>Communication of level or risk</b></p>	<p>Use the HSE guidance documents on Verification and <a href="#">Pronouncement</a> and Death</p> <p>As COVID-19 is a new and emerging pathogen it is understandable that those who will be handling the remains will be concerned and may wish to be made aware of the patient’s infectious status.</p> <p><b>Embalming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embalming is not recommended.</li> </ul> <p><b>Hygienic preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any infection control procedures that have been advised before death must be continued in handling the deceased person after death</li> <li>• Hygienic preparation includes washing of the face and hands, closing the mouth and eyes, tidying the hair and in some cases shaving the face.</li> <li>• Washing or preparing the body is acceptable if those carrying out the task wear long-sleeved gowns gloves , a surgical mask and eye protection if there is a risk of splashing) which should then be discarded.</li> </ul> <p><b>Transporting the deceased person</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bodies should be placed in a body bag prior to transportation to the mortuary as this facilitates lifting and further reduces the risk of infection.</li> <li>• A face mask or similar should be placed over the mouth of the deceased before lifting the remains into the body bag.</li> <li>• Those physically handling the body and placing the body into the bag should wear, at a minimum, the following PPE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Gloves</li> <li>○ Long sleeved gown</li> <li>○ Surgical facemask</li> <li>○ Pay close attention to washing hands after removal of PPE</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Once in the hospital mortuary, it would be acceptable to open the body bag for family viewing only. The family should be advised not to kiss the deceased and should clean their hands with alcohol hand rub or soap and water after touching the deceased</p> <p>PPE is not required for transfer once the body has been placed in the coffin</p> <p>See guidance document for funeral directors <a href="https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/funeraldirectorsguidance/Guidance%20Funeral%20Directors%20v1.3.pdf">https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/funeraldirectorsguidance/Guidance%20Funeral%20Directors%20v1.3.pdf</a></p>