

**FORM No. 4A**

*(See Rule 7)*

**MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF CAUSE OF DEATH**

(For non-institutional deaths. Not to be used for still births)

To be sent to Registrar along with Form No. 2 (Death Report)

I hereby certify that the deceased Shri/Smti./Km ..... son of/wife of/daughter of ..... resident of ..... was under my treatment from ..... to ..... and he/she died on ..... at ..... A M/P.M

**NAME OF DECEASED**

SEX	Age of Death				For use of Statal Office
	Age in completed Year	If less than 1 Year age in Month	If less than 1 Month age in Day	If less than one day age in Hour	
1 Male 2 Female					
<p align="center"><b>CAUSE OF DEATH</b></p> <p>I Immediate cause State the disease, injury or complication which cause death, not the mode of dying as heart failure, asthenia, etc.</p> <p>(a) ..... due to (or as a consequences of)</p> <p>Antecedent cause Morbidity condition, if any, giving rise to the above Cause, stating underlying conditions last</p> <p>(b) ..... due to (or as a consequences of)</p> <p>(c) .....</p> <p>ii Other significant conditions contribution to the death but not related to the disease or conditions causing it</p>				Interval between on set & death approx.	

If deceased was a female, was pregnancy the death associated with ?      1 Yes      2 No  
 If yes, was there a delivery ?      1. Yes      2 No

Name and signature of the Medical Practitioner certifying the cause of death

Date of Certification .....

SEE REVERSE FOR INSTRUCTIONS

(To be detached and handed over to the relative of the deceased)

Certified that Shri/Smti./Kum ..... S.W.D. of Shri ..... R/O ..... was under my treatment from ..... to ..... and he/she expired on ..... at ..... A M/P.M.

Doctor  
Signature and address of Medical Practitioner/  
Medical attendance with Registration No

## MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF CAUSE OF DEATH

### Directions for completing the form

**Name of deceased** : to be given in full. Do not use initials. If deceased is an infant, not yet named at time of death, write 'Son of (S/o) or 'Daughter of (D/o), followed by names of mother and father.

**Age** : If the deceased was over 1 year of age, give age in completed years. If the deceased was below 1 year of age, give age in months and if below 1 month give age in completed number of days, and if below one day, in hours.

**Cause of Death** : This part of the form should always be completed by the attending physician personally.

The certificate of cause of death is divided into two parts, I and II. Part I is again divided into three parts, lines (a) (b) (c). If a single morbid condition completely explains the deaths, then this will be written on line (a) of Part I, and nothing more need be written in the rest of Part I or in Part II. For example, smallpox, lobar pneumonia, cardiac beriberi are sufficient cause of death and usually nothing more is needed.

Often, however, a number of morbid conditions will have been present at death, and the doctor must then complete the certificate in the proper manner so that the correct underlying cause will be tabulated. First, enter Part I (a) the immediate cause of death. This does not mean the mode of dying e.g., heart failure, respiratory failure, etc. These terms should not appear on the certificate at all since they are mode of dying and not cause of death. Next consider whether the immediate cause is a complication or delay result of some other cause. If so, enter the antecedent cause in Part I, line (b). Some times there will be three stages in the cause of events leading to death. If so, line (c) will be completed. The underlying cause to be tabulated is always written last in Part I.

Morbid conditions or injuries may be present which were not directly related to the train of events causing death but which contributed in some way to the fatal outcome. Sometimes the doctor finds it difficult to decide, especially for infant deaths, which of several independent conditions was the primary cause of death; but only one cause can be tabulated, so the doctor must decide. If the other diseases are not effects of the underlying cause, they are entered in Part II.

Do not write two or more conditions on a single line. Please write the names of the diseases (in full) in the certificates as legibly as possible to avoid the risk of their being misread.

**Onset** : Complete the columns for interval between onset and death whenever possible, even if very approximately, e.g. "from birth", "Several years".

**Accidental or violent deaths** : Both the external cause and the nature of the injury are needed and should be stated. The doctor or hospital should always be able to describe the injury, stating the part of the body injured, and should give the external cause in full when this is shown. Example : (a) Hypostatic pneumonia; (b) Fracture of neck of femur, (c) Fall from ladder at home.

**Maternal deaths** : Be sure to answer the questions on pregnancy and delivery. This information is needed for all women of child-bearing age, even though the pregnancy may have had nothing to do with the death.

**Old age or senility** : Old age (or senility) should not be given as a cause of death if a more specific cause is known. If old age was a contributory factor, it should be entered in Part II. Example : (a) Chronic bronchitis, If old age.

**Completeness of information** : A complete case history is not wanted, but, if the information is available, enough details should be given to enable the underlying cause to be properly classified.

**Example** : Anaemia — Give type of anaemia, if known. Neoplasms—Indicate whether benign or malignant, and site, with site of primary neoplasm, whenever possible. Heart disease—Describe the condition specifically; if congestive heart failure, chronic on pulmonale, etc., are mentioned, give the antecedent conditions. Tetanus—Describe the antecedent injury, if known. Operation—State the condition for which the operation was performed. Dysentery—Specify whether bacillary, amoebic, etc., if known. Complications of pregnancy or delivery—Describe the complication specifically. Tuberculosis—Give organs affected.

**Symptomatic statement** :—Convulsions, diarrhoea, fever, ascites, jaundice, debility etc., are symptoms which may be due to any one of a number of different conditions. Sometimes nothing more is known, but whenever possible give the disease which caused the symptom.