



STATE REGISTRAR NOTICE

Subject: EDRS Phase 2 Implementation	Number: 2019-08
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We are pleased to announce the kickoff of Phase 2 of the Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS). Phase 2 of EDRS focuses on the onboarding of medical facilities and medical certifiers.

In fall of 2016, we began Phase 1 of this transition from paper-based to electronic reporting of deaths that occur in Pennsylvania. Phase 1 of EDRS focused on onboarding funeral homes, coroners/medical examiners, and local registrars. Several medical facilities who expressed a desire for early adoption of EDRS were also onboarded during that phase.

Due to the success of Phase 1, approximately 60% of all deaths are registered through EDRS, with 12% of these deaths being fully registered through EDRS. The adoption of EDRS enables participating end-users to have immediate access to death data that they registered electronically, which results in improved timeliness of death reporting, improved quality of death data, improved efficiencies when amending a death record, and decreased processing times to issue death certificates.

As medical facilities and medical certifiers are onboarded during Phase 2, the percentage of deaths fully registered through EDRS will increase. As additional medical certifiers adopt EDRS, our reliance on the medical fax attestation process currently used by EDRS-enabled funeral homes will decrease since more death cases will be medically certified in EDRS.

If you are currently using EDRS, we request your assistance in doing outreach to the medical certifiers that you work with by informing them of EDRS. The attached brochure entitled “Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS), Information for Medical Certifiers” explains the benefits of EDRS.

In the next few weeks, we will be launching an online survey for current EDRS users and for medical certifiers. Medical certifiers interested in adopting EDRS at the onset of Phase 2 are encouraged to contact our EDRS Hotline at RA-DHDeathSupport@pa.gov or by phone at 1-800-323-9613, option #2 (from 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday/excluding holidays).

Funeral homes and coroners/medical examiners who have not adopted EDRS are encouraged to register for an online training by visiting <http://doh.pa.gov/edrs>.