



Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011

2011 asp 11

Review of medical certificates of cause of death

8 Review of medical certificates of cause of death

- (1) A medical reviewer must review any medical certificate of cause of death—
 - (a) referred under section 24A of the 1965 Act, or
 - (b) in respect of which an application has been made under section 4(1) (other than one which has been rejected as vexatious under section 4(3)).
- (2) In conducting a review, the medical reviewer may—
 - (a) examine the health records of the deceased person to whom the certificate relates,
 - (b) seek the views of the medical practitioner who attested the certificate,
 - (c) make enquiries of any other person who the medical reviewer considers may have information about the health of the deceased person (for example, a member of the deceased person's family, a carer or a nurse),
 - (d) make such other enquiries and examine such other things as the medical reviewer considers appropriate.
- (3) Following a review under subsection (1) the medical reviewer must come to a view on whether the certificate is in order.
- (4) For the purposes of this Act, a certificate is in order where a medical reviewer is satisfied, on the basis of the evidence available to the medical reviewer, that—
 - (a) the cause (or causes) of death mentioned represents a reasonable conclusion as to the likely cause (or causes) of death, and
 - (b) the other information contained in the certificate is correct.
- (5) The Scottish Ministers may by regulations make further provision about the review of certificates including, in particular, action to be taken by medical reviewers when conducting a review or by senior medical reviewers when conducting a further review.