

Important Telephone Numbers

Family physician: _____

Care team: _____

Clergy: _____

Funeral Home: _____

Lawyer / Executor: _____

Bank: _____

Other important numbers: _____

www.myalternatives.ca

Lower Mainland & Fraser Valley 604-857-5779

Mission 604-826-2001

Chilliwack 604-793-2222

mail@myalternatives.ca



3070 275A Street, Aldergrove BC V4W 3L4

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Considerations When A Loved One Is Planning To Die At Hospice Or At Home.

The enclosed information has been prepared
especially for your convenience by



ALTERNATIVES®
FUNERAL & CREMATION
SERVICES

Our hope is that we are able to provide you and your family with some comfort in answering a few common questions that arise and should be considered during the end of life process.

Important Documents

At Home Notification of Death

When the death occurs at home, an At Home Notification Of Death is recommended to be in-place to ensure that a smooth transition after death will occur. This document is completed by your health provider and should be kept in an area in your home visible to all those that are responsible for the well-being of your loved-one.

This document is not a requirement should the passing take place at a Hospice or care facility. Having this document in place for a home death eliminates the need to contact 911 at the time of passing.

Do Not Recucitate Document/No CPR Order

Loved ones that choose to die in their home should ensure that a DNR or No CPR document be in place to eliminate any confusion at the time of passing. This document must be presented and given to the funeral home when they arrive to transfer your loved one into their care.

Does your loved one have a will?

Ask your loved one if they have a will and if they do, ask where you could find it in the event of their death. Sometimes wills can be lost simply because no one knew where to look for it.

When to contact the funeral home after the death has occurred.

It is recommended that the family research ahead of time which funeral provider they will be using at the time of death. Following the death, the person responsible for the funeral arrangements (i.e. the executor/spouse/child) will need to make the initial phone call to instruct the funeral home to proceed with the transfer of their loved one. This phone call has no specific timeline and can be made once the family are ready to take the next step and instruct the transfer. All funeral homes answer their phones 24/7.

Rituals leading up to the passing

These provide a way to express the love you may hold for the person who is dying. These rituals can be performed at home or in a hospice.

- Sitting with the dying person while gentle music plays in the background;
- Quietly humming or singing a song;
- Reading a favourite story, scripture or poem;
- Reading cards or notes sent by friends, colleagues or neighbours;
- Holding or stroking the person's hand or arm;
- Brushing the person's hair or wiping the person's face;
- Giving mouth care or giving small sips of water or ice chips (with guidance from the health care team);
- Rubbing the person's feet or legs;
- Reminding the person that he or she is loved and will be remembered;
- Thanking the person for the ways he or she has touched your life.

Such activities are comforting not only for the person who is dying, but also for family members. It is vital to also remember to include rituals of self-care in this intense time of concern and caregiving.