

Electronic Death Registration (EDR)

Vital Statistics
Service Nova Scotia



Healthcare Staff – Fact Sheet

Accessing EDR

How do I gain access to EDR and how do I log in?

- EDR will be available starting at **9am on November 24, 2025**.
- It can be launched from The Compass (NSH) under Clinical Applications, The Pulse intranet (IWK) under Quick Links, or through this direct link: [Vitalware EDN Service](#)
- You can access EDR from any connected device – laptop, desktop computer, tablet, or phone.
- You will log in using your NS Health, IWK Health, or other government email account.

The EDR Process

How do I start the digital death registration/medical certificate of death?

- Once a death has occurred, the digital record can be started in EDR. The minimum information required to save is the First Name, Last Name, and Date of Death.
- New records that have been created by you or someone else at your facility appear on your Open Registrations tab and are available for you to complete and assign to a physician or nurse practitioner, and to a funeral home.
- If the funeral home has not yet been assigned, the record remains in EDR under Open Registrations.
- If there is no funeral home, as soon as the record has been completed and the MCD has been signed, it is routed directly to Vital Statistics for registration of the death.

Paper MCDs

Will there continue to be paper MCDs?

- While we encourage all medical attendants to use the electronic death registration system, paper MCDs will still be available and accepted.

November 2025

Record Access

Who can see the digital MCDs?

- Any healthcare staff EDR user can see records that have been created by, or assigned to, their healthcare facility.
- Once the digital MCD has been signed, the records are available under the Submitted Registrations tab (if within the past 60 days) or through the Search function.

Proof of signed MCD

How will we confirm proof of MCD completion when funeral homes are retrieving the remains?

- Funeral homes will have either a printout from the EDR system or a digital version to show (e.g., on a phone or tablet), rather than the current paper MCD.
- You can also look up the record under Submitted Registrations in EDR, and if needed use the Print Out function to print a copy of the death registration, including the signed cause of death, to transmit with the remains.


Medical Examiner Cases

What if the case should be assigned to the Medical Examiner's Service?

- Once Medical Examiners are onboarded to EDR in 2026, you will be able to assign a case directly to them within the system.
- Until that time, Medical Examiner cases should not be entered into EDR. Contact the Medical Examiner's Service directly so that they can initiate the paperwork.

EDR Support

How do I get help with EDR?

- From within EDR, use the  button to get direct access to the EDR Support website and our email address.
- The [EDR Support Website](#) has training recordings, and soon will also have user guides, video tutorials, and self-paced online learning modules (LMS).

- Questions or requests for help should be emailed to:

Help.Vitalware@novascotia.ca

This inbox is monitored during regular business hours, and someone will respond to you as soon as possible.