



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Department of Health

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### Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS)

September 29, 2014

Dear Colleague:

For the past three years, the Virginia Department of Health's Division of Vital Records (DVR) and Office of Information Management and Health IT worked diligently to add a module for the electronic filing of death records to the Virginia Vital Events and Screening Tracking System. I am happy to announce that the new module will go live on November 1, 2014.

The Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS) facilitates the workflow between the individual who certifies the death certificate and the funeral home facility.

- EDRS is a secure system based on the Code and Regulations governing vital records and on the business requirements for certification of death, which were gathered through stakeholder meetings with physicians, funeral directors, deputy registrars, decedent affairs, and others.
- EDRS begins with creation of a death record that can be initiated either by a physician's office, hospital or funeral home facility
- Through built-in workflow, the record is transmitted for action and electronic signature allowing for a more timely completion of the death certificate
- Training and registration for the new system begins Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. For information on the web-based training classes and the registration process, please visit [http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/Vital\\_Records/edrs](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/Vital_Records/edrs)
- For practice settings with more than five (5) EDRS users, we ask that you appoint a Facility User Administrator who will have privileges to set up accounts and manage passwords

Use of EDRS is voluntary and the traditional method of certifying a death remains an option, but I encourage you to review the EDRS information on the DVR website and sign up to use this new system. We are confident that the Electronic Death Registration System will be convenient to use and will provide more efficient and timely death certification services to the citizens of the Virginia.

Sincerely,

David H. Trump, MD, MPH, MPA  
Chief Deputy Commissioner for Public Health & Preparedness