

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



SUBJECT: PATIENT DEATHS

POLICY NO. 316

PURPOSE:: To establish the Department's policy for hospitals regarding the release of deceased patients.

POLICY:: The release of a body from a Department hospital shall be consistent with the interest and desires of the deceased's relatives. Release of the body shall comply with directions of the deceased if prior to death he or she directed preparation for type and place of interment of his or her remains.

Release shall be effected only with the signed consent of the person designated as having the right to control disposition of the remains of the deceased.

GUIDE:: Each death shall be recorded with the Department's Vital Records division within five days after death and prior to any disposition of the deceased.

AUTHORITY:: California Health & Safety Code, Sections 7100 and 10200

EFFECTIVE DATE: Nov 24, 1975

SUPERCEDES:

APPROVED: Signature on File
