



# DEAD BODY CARE

## **DEAD BODY CARE**

After death the body undergoes many physical changes. So care must be provided as early to prevent tissue damage /disfigurement of body parts.

### **Purpose of dead body care**

1. To prepare the body for the morgue.
2. To prevent discoloration or deformity of the body.
3. To protect the body from post mortem discharge.

## **PROCEDURES**

Care of dead body ,often depends upon the customs and religious beliefs.

Nurses provide dignity and sensitivity to the client and family

1. Check orders for any specimens
2. Ask for special requests to family (eg: shaving , a special gown , Bible in hand )
3. Remove all equipments , tubes , supplies and dirty linens.
4. Cleanse the body thoroughly , apply clean sheets
5. Brush and comb the hairs
6. The eyelids are closed and held in place for a few seconds , so they remain closed.
7. Dentures should be in the mouth to maintain facial alignment.

8. Mouth should be closed.
9. Remove all the ornaments.
10. Absorbent pads are placed under the buttocks to take up any feaces and urine released because of muscle sphincter relaxation
11. All the orifices should be closed.
12. Cover with a clean sheet up to the chin.
13. Spray a deodorizer to remove unpleasant odor.
14. Apply name tag ( wrist , right big toe)
15. Allow the family members to view the dead body
16. The body is wrapped in a large piece of plastic or cotton material used to enclose a body after death. Identification is then applied outside of the wrapper.

17. Hand over all the belongings to the relatives.
18. Do complete documentation in the nursing notes.
  - Time of death and actions taken to prevent the death.
  - Who pronounced the death.
  - Any organ donation
  - Personal articles left on the body
  - Personal items given to family
  - Time of discharge and destination of the body
  - Location of name tags on the body
  - Special request by family
19. Hand over the dead body to the relatives / sent to the mortuary.



THANK YOU

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