



Role of Health Sector in Civil Registration: Options to increase registration of deaths and cause of deaths

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Martin Bratschi





Ensuring registration of all death known to the health sector and collection of cause of death

- Background and potential of the role of the health sector
- Options for the role of the health sector
 - Option 1: Health sector issues proof to the family; family is informant
 - Option 2: Health sector issues proof to the family and notifies the civil registrar; family is informant
 - Option 3: Health sector is informant; no action required by the family
- Required CRVS system changes to enhance the role of the health sector



Background and potential of the role of the health sector

- **Family members are often responsible** to declare birth and death, but may fail to do so leaving events unregistered
- Countries are engaging the **health sector to play a more proactive role**, i.e. requiring notification or declaration from the health sector and establishing interoperability to collect high quality cause of death data
- Has the potential to make civil registration **more complete** (presence of health services in communities) and **equitable** (reporting through standard operating procedure of health sector staff rather families) and improve the **quality and availability of the cause of death data**



Options for the role of the health sector

- Option 1: Health sector **issues proof to the family**; family is informant
- Option 2: Health sector issues proof to the family and **notifies the civil registrar**; family is informant
- Option 3: **Health sector is informant**; no action required by the family

A more active role of the health sector also allows for **increased interoperability for the sharing of cause of death data.**



Option 1: Passive Role of the Health Sector

- Health sector is responsible only for issuing proof of the event to the family.
- **The family**, as the legally designated informant, is responsible for declaring the vital event to the civil registrar for the purpose of civil registration.

Civil registration is **dependent on the active role of the family**.

Civil registrar is **unaware** of unregistered event because health sector staff have not notified the civil registrar of the event.



Option 2: More Proactive Role for the Health Sector

- Health sector is responsible not only for issuing proof of the event to the family but is also responsible for **notifying** the vital event to the civil registrar.
- The family, as the legally designated informant, is responsible to declare the event to the civil registrar.

Civil registration is dependent on the **active role of the family**.

Civil registrar is aware of unregistered vital event if the family fails to report to the civil registrar.



Option 3: Most Proactive Role of the Health Sector

- **Health sector is responsible**, as the legally designated informant, for declaring the vital event to the civil registrar.
- The family is not required to declare the event or interact with the civil registrar for the vital event to be registered.

Civil registration **does not depend on the active role of the family.**

Ensures registration of virtually all vital events that occur: 1) in a **health facility**, 2) in the **community** attended by a health worker, and 3) in the community and of which a **health worker becomes aware** shortly after the event.



System changes to enhance the role of the health sector

Potential of the role of the health sector will depend on:

- **Business processes** that interlink the health sector and civil registration
- **Legal frameworks** that designate health sector staff as informants
- **Coordination** between agencies and organizational and system interoperability

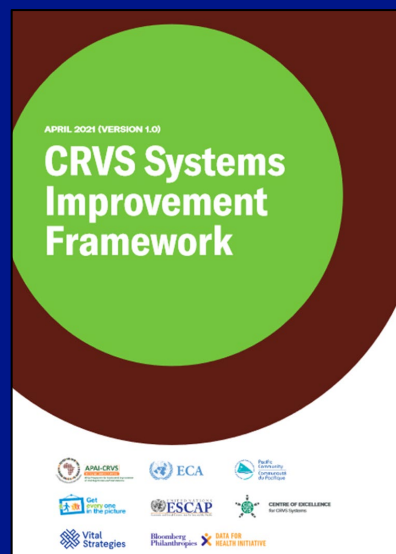
The health sector can greatly contribute to ensure that every death is registered and high quality cause of death information is available.

Thank you.

Martin W. Bratschi

Technical Director, CRVS

mbratschi@vitalstrategies.org



<https://www.vitalstrategies.org/resources/crvs-systems-improvement-framework/>



<https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/341911>



<https://advocacyincubator.org/ghai-advocacy-tools/legal-and-regulatory-review-toolkit-for-crvsid/>