



# OSCE Checklist: Death Confirmation

Before death confirmation		
1	Check the patient's resuscitation status	
2	Review the patient's notes for details about their medical history	
3	Clarify the circumstances surrounding the death	
4	Introduce yourself and offer condolences to any family members present	
Death confirmation		
5	Wash your hands and don PPE if appropriate	
6	Confirm the identity of the patient by checking their wrist band	
7	Inspect for obvious signs of life such as movement and respiratory effort	
8	Assess the patient's response to verbal stimuli (e.g. "Hello, Mr Smith, can you hear me?")	
9	Assess the patient's response to pain	
10	Assess the patient's pupillary reflexes using a pen torch	
11	Palpate the carotid artery for a pulse	
12	Auscultate for heart sounds for at least 2 minutes	
13	Auscultate for respiratory sounds for at least 3 minutes	
14	Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands	
Documentation		
15	Document the death confirmation process in the notes, including your details, the clinical findings and the time at which death was confirmed	
To complete death confirmation		
16	Inform the relevant nursing staff	
17	Consider if the death needs referring to the coroner and discussing with the consultant responsible for the patient	

Read the full guide at  
[geekymedics.com](https://www.geekymedics.com)

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