

## Appendix 5. Examples of death certification for CDI patients

[2025 expert review: retained with updated text.]

Modified from the April 2025 version of [Medical certificate of cause of death: guidance for medical practitioners](#).

If a healthcare-associated infection (HCAI) was part of the sequence leading to death, it should be in Part 1 of the medical certificate of cause of death, and you should include all the conditions in the sequence of events back to the original disease being treated.

Example:

Part	Disease or condition	Duration
1a	<i>Clostridium difficile</i> pseudomembranous colitis	1 week
1b	Multiple antibiotic therapy	2 weeks
1c	Community acquired pneumonia with severe sepsis	2 weeks
2	Immobility, polymyalgia rheumatica, osteoporosis	2 years

Or:

Part	Disease or condition	Duration
1a	Bronchopneumonia (hospital-acquired methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> )	4 days
1b	Multiple myeloma	6 months
2	Chronic obstructive airways disease	12 years

If your patient had an HCAI which was not part of the direct sequence, but which you think contributed at all to their death, it should be mentioned in Part 2 of the certificate.

Example:

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<b>Part</b>	<b>Disease or condition</b>	<b>Duration</b>
1a	Carcinomatosis and renal failure (joint causes of death)	3 months
1b	Adenocarcinoma of the prostate	2 years
2	Chronic obstructive airways disease and catheter-associated <i>Escherichia coli</i> urinary tract infection	5 years