

Medical Examiner - Inputting Pending as Cause of Death

This document will review the process for correctly inputting *Pending* as the Cause of Death on a record in DAVE. Remember *Pending* is not an actual Cause of Death and the record will need to be amended at a later date.

Cause of Death Page

- Once in the record go to Part I Line a. and type in the word **PENDING**
 - Do not enter any variations of pending i.e.:
 - Pending Investigation
 - Pending COD
 - Unknown
 - Pending.
 - Variations will not be accepted and the State Bureau of Vital Records will contact your office to have the information updated.
- On the Approximate Interval Onset to Death Field for Line A type in the word **PENDING**
- Select Save.
 - If you select Validate Page at this time you will receive a 'Red' error message. This is part of the normal process and will be resolved when the Certifier page has been completed.
- Select Next, this will take you to the Other Factors Page.

Cause of Death

NCHS Recommendations for Entry of Cause of Death

Enter the chain of events- diseases, injuries, or complications- that directly caused the death. DO NOT enter terminal events such as cardiac arrest, respiratory arrest or ventricular fibrillation without showing the etiology. DO NOT ABBREVIATE. DO NOT ENTER OLD AGE. Enter only one cause on a line. Add additional lines if necessary.

Sequentially list conditions, if any, leading to the cause listed on line a. Enter the UNDERLYING CAUSE (disease or injury that initiated the events resulting in death) LAST.

Cause of Death

Immediate Cause (Final disease or condition resulting in death)

PART I Line a.  

Approximate Interval Onset to Death 

Due to (or as a consequence of):

Line b. 

Due to (or as a consequence of):

Line c. 

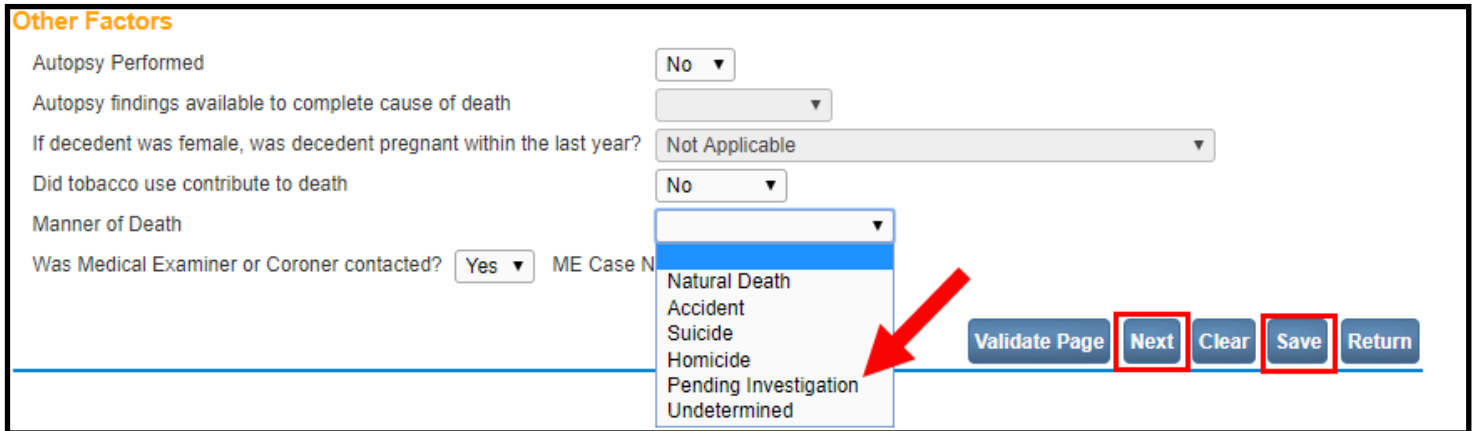
Due to (or as a consequence of):

Line d. 

PART II Other significant conditions contributing to death but not resulting in the underlying cause given in PART I. 

Other Factors Page

1. Once on the Other Factors page complete the Autopsy, Pregnancy and Tobacco use questions.
 - a. As a Medical Examiner the ME question will auto-fill. If it has not auto filled complete that question as well.
2. From the Manner of Death dropdown select *Pending Investigation*
3. Select Save.
 - a. If you select Validate Page at this time you will receive a 'Red' error message. This is part of the normal process and will be resolved when the Certifier page has been completed.
4. Select Next, this will take you to the Injury Page.



Other Factors

Autopsy Performed

Autopsy findings available to complete cause of death

If decedent was female, was decedent pregnant within the last year?

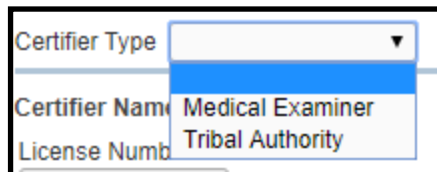
Did tobacco use contribute to death

Manner of Death

Was Medical Examiner or Coroner contacted? ME Case N

Certifying the Record

1. The Injury page does not need to be completed at this time - it is advised that any available information is input.
2. Select Next, this will take you to the Certifier Page.
3. Select the appropriate Certifier Type from the drop down.



Certifier Type

Certifier Name

License Number

4. Select the Save/Validate Page button.



5. The record will update and the status bar will show that the record is Certified and Cause of Death is Pending.

/Personal Valid/Medical Valid/Registered/Signed/Certified/NA/Cause of Death Pending/FIPS Coding Required/Cremation Clearance Approved

Dependent on the scenario the funeral home or medical examiner will complete the Personal Information pages and the record will register with a Pending Cause of Death.