

**REFERRAL PATHWAY FOLLOWING A NEONATAL DEATH to establish if procedural response to unexpected death in childhood (PRUDIC) applies**

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<b>Documents to read alongside this Policy, Procedure etc (delete as necessary)</b>	<b>ALL WALES PRUDIC Guidelines (2018)</b>
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**Area for circulation:** Maternity & Neonatal Unit

**Author:** Corporate Safeguarding Team

**Executive Lead:** CTM UHB

**Group Consulted Via / Committee:**

**Ratified by: Corporate safeguarding team**  
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**Disclaimer**

**When using this document please ensure that the version is the most up to date by checking the Obstetrics & Gynaecology Guidelines on the CTM Clinical Portal**

**PRINTED DOCUMENTS MUST NOT BE RELIED ON**



In the event of a neonatal death, it needs to be established if **Procedural Response to Unexpected Death in Childhood (PRUDiC)** applies:

Who to contact

**Normal working hours**  
(Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm)

Out of normal working hours

Contact the CTMUHB Corporate Safeguarding Team or the Safeguarding Midwife:

Contact	Telephone No.
Safeguarding Team	01443 744800
Cwm Taf MASH Health Team	01443 742949
Bridgend MASH Health Team	01656 643630
Safeguarding Midwife	07388950232

Contact the Local Authority Emergency Duty Team:

**Telephone No.**  
01443 743665

Information concerning the circumstances around the death will need to be shared with **POLICE PPU** to identify if **PRUDiC PROCESS NEEDS TO APPLY**. This can be on the next working day if out of hours.

**All Wales PRUDiC Guidance 2018: Unexpected Death of a Child**

The unexpected death of a child has been defined as:

'The death of a child which was not anticipated as a significant possibility 24 hours before the death or where there was a similarly unexpected collapse leading to or precipitating the events which led to the death'.

and as 'The death of a child where there is no known antecedent condition that might be expected to cause the death at that time, and the child dies either immediately or subsequently from the consequences of the precipitating event or collapse'.

The second part of this definition is especially relevant when there is a significant time delay between the collapse of the child and the eventual death.

The PRUDiC applies to all deaths in children from birth until their 18th Birthday whether from natural, unnatural, known or unknown causes, at home, in hospital or in the community. This includes road traffic collisions, apparent suicides and murders.

**It does not include;**

Stillbirths. Neonates where the birth was in hospital and was attended by a professional, who have never been discharged into the community **and where the death was expected.**

If, after discussion with the **Police PRUDiC applies**

If the PRUDiC process **does not apply**

- Support the family and provide the telephone number for **SANDS** (stillbirth and neonatal deaths support group)
- Arrange follow up appointment with the mother's obstetrician, and the paediatrician if involved to discuss the cause of death.
- Any neonatal death should be reported to the **Coroner**
- Notify the local **Child Death Overview Panel** of the Neonatal Death
- In the case of a **congenital abnormality** the neonatal death is reportable under the CTMUHB Policy regarding notification of a neonatal death (CARIS)