

15. Paperwork for repatriation of bodies and funerals outwith Scotland



15.1 Repatriation to rest of UK

The death must be registered in Scotland. The Registrar will provide an abbreviated extract of the entry in the Register of Deaths and Form 14 Certificate of Registration. No additional paperwork is required for repatriation unless the death has been investigated by the Procurator Fiscal (in which case the PF will issue the relevant documents).

When a funeral is being arranged in the rest of the UK the registrar and coroner for the area where the funeral will take place should be informed by the family or their funeral director. In England & Wales the registrar will issue a “Certificate of No Liability to Register a Death in England & Wales” to enable the funeral to proceed.

If the funeral is a cremation the crematorium medical referee may wish to see a full extract (i.e. including cause of death) of the entry in the Register of Deaths (this can be purchased from the Registrar in Scotland for a fee of £10) or Procurator Fiscal certificate E(1) for PF cases. If a funeral director requests ‘cremation papers’ in these circumstances they should be advised that these are no longer issued for deaths in Scotland and the required information can be found on the Form 14 Certificate of Registration and the full extract of the entry in the Register of Deaths.

15.2 Repatriation overseas

The specific regulations and paperwork required will depend on the destination country and should be checked with the relevant embassy or consular office. In many cases a doctor will be asked to provide a [‘Freedom from Infection’ \(FFI\) certificate](#). This does not have to be completed by the doctor who certified the death – it can be issued by any registered doctor who has reviewed the patient’s healthcare records to check infection status.