

Coding System for Cause of Deceased Donor Death

(implemented Sept. 12, 2017)

- 10 Intracranial hemorrhage (spontaneous)**
- 11 Cerebral infarction**
- 12 Brain tumor**
- 20 Traumatic brain injury**
- 40 Cerebral anoxia after cardiorespiratory arrest**
- 70 CNS infection**
- 99 Other causes of death**



Explanatory Notes

10 Intracranial hemorrhage (spontaneous)

Intracranial hemorrhage which occurs spontaneously (in the absence of trauma). Includes intracerebral hemorrhage, subarachnoid hemorrhage or non-traumatic subdural hemorrhage (rare).

11 Cerebral infarction

Cerebral infarction caused by occlusion of a major artery, most frequently thrombosis.

12 Brain tumor

Primary brain tumor such as astrocytoma, glioblastoma and ependymoma, as well as meningioma. In addition, this code includes death due to hemorrhage from a brain tumor.

20 Traumatic brain injury

Trauma to the head causing cerebral laceration, cerebral contusion or intracranial hemorrhage.

40 Cerebral anoxia after cardiorespiratory arrest

All causes of cardiorespiratory arrest resulting in global anoxic brain injury. Includes primary heart diseases (e.g. acute myocardial infarction), primary cardiac arrhythmias, pulmonary embolism, circulatory shock, respiratory disorders (e.g. asthma), airway obstruction due to foreign body, strangulation (e.g. hanging) or drowning, and cardiorespiratory arrest caused by poisoning (e.g. carbon monoxide poisoning) or trauma.

70 CNS infection

Central nervous system infections such as meningitis, encephalitis and brain abscess.

99 Other causes of death

All other causes of death that cannot be classified using the codes above. This category includes brain injury and swelling from causes such as acute liver failure, acute hyponatremia (water intoxication), inherited metabolic disorders (e.g. maple syrup urine disease), intoxications (e.g. methanol or ethylene glycol), hydrocephalus and status epilepticus.

Additional explanation or information on the circumstances leading to death can be given in an adjacent free-text field, including trauma and suicide.