

**Chapter 246-978 WAC**  
**DEATH WITH DIGNITY ACT REQUIREMENTS**

Last Update: 8/14/23

**WAC**

246-978-001 Purpose and authority.  
246-978-010 Definitions.  
246-978-020 Reporting.

**DISPOSITION OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER**

246-978-030 Confidentiality—Liability. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.245 RCW. WSR 09-06-010, § 246-978-030, filed 2/20/09, effective 3/5/09.] Repealed by WSR 23-17-071, filed 8/14/23, effective 9/14/23. Statutory Authority: 2023 c 38 and chapter 70.245 RCW.

246-978-040 Qualifications of witness in a long-term care facility. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.245 RCW. WSR 09-06-010, § 246-978-040, filed 2/20/09, effective 3/5/09.] Repealed by WSR 23-17-071, filed 8/14/23, effective 9/14/23. Statutory Authority: 2023 c 38 and chapter 70.245 RCW.

**WAC 246-978-001 Purpose and authority.** The Washington state department of health adopts this chapter to implement the provisions of chapter 70.245 RCW, the Washington Death with Dignity Act.

[Statutory Authority: 2023 c 38 and chapter 70.245 RCW. WSR 23-17-071, § 246-978-001, filed 8/14/23, effective 9/14/23. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.245 RCW. WSR 09-06-010, § 246-978-001, filed 2/20/09, effective 3/5/09.]

**WAC 246-978-010 Definitions.** In addition to the definitions contained in RCW 70.245.010, the following definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Act" means the "Washington Death with Dignity Act" or Initiative Measure No. 1000 as adopted by the voters on November 4, 2008, codified as chapter 70.245 RCW, and as amended.

(2) "Department" means the department of health.

[Statutory Authority: 2023 c 38 and chapter 70.245 RCW. WSR 23-17-071, § 246-978-010, filed 8/14/23, effective 9/14/23. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.245 RCW. WSR 09-06-010, § 246-978-010, filed 2/20/09, effective 3/5/09.]

**WAC 246-978-020 Reporting.** (1) To comply with the act, within 30 calendar days of writing a prescription for medication to end the life of a qualified patient, the attending qualified medical provider shall send the following completed documents to the department electronically, by mail, or fax:

(a) The patient's written request for medication to end life, either using the Written Request for Medication to End My Life in a Humane and Dignified Manner form or in substantially the same form as described in the act;

(b) Attending qualified medical provider's compliance form;

(c) Consulting qualified medical provider's compliance form; and

(d) Psychiatric/psychological consultant's compliance form, if an evaluation was performed.

(2) Within 30 calendar days of a qualified patient's ingestion of a lethal dose of medication obtained under the act, or death from any other cause, whichever comes first, the attending qualified medical

provider shall send the completed attending qualified medical provider's after death reporting form to the department electronically, by mail, or fax.

(3) To comply with the act, within 30 calendar days of dispensing medication, the dispensing health care provider shall send a copy of the pharmacy dispensing record form to the department electronically, by mail, or fax. The pharmacy dispensing record form must contain:

- (a) Patient's name and date of birth;
- (b) Patient's address;
- (c) Prescribing qualified medical provider's name and phone number;
- (d) Dispensing health care provider's name, address and phone number;
- (e) Medication dispensed and quantity;
- (f) Date the prescription was written; and
- (g) Date the medication was dispensed.

[Statutory Authority: 2023 c 38 and chapter 70.245 RCW. WSR 23-17-071, § 246-978-020, filed 8/14/23, effective 9/14/23. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.245 RCW. WSR 09-06-010, § 246-978-020, filed 2/20/09, effective 3/5/09.]