

POST-MORTEM CARE

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Put on gloves (according to procedure #2).	2. Protects you from contamination by bodily fluids.
3. Respect the family's religious restrictions regarding the care of the body, if applicable.	3. Residents/families have the right to freedom of religion.
4. Assist roommate to leave the area until body is prepared and removed, if appropriate.	4. Reduces the roommate's stress.
5. Place body in supine position (according to procedure #3).	5. Prepares body for procedure.
6. Place one pillow beneath resident's head.	6. Prevents blood from discoloring the face by settling in it.
7. Close the eyes.	
8. Insert dentures, if this is the facility policy, and close the mouth.	8. It is easier to put dentures in the mouth right away and gives the face a natural appearance.
9. Cleanse body as necessary. Comb hair (according to procedure #29).	9. Prepares the body for viewing by family and friends.
10. Place a pad under the buttocks to collect any drainage.	10. Due to total loss of muscle tone, urine and/or stool may drain from the body even after death.
11. Put a clean hospital gown on resident and place body in a comfortable looking position to allow family and friends to view the body.	
12. Remove gloves (according to procedure #2).	
13. Do final steps.	
14. After the mortuary has removed the body, strip the bed and clean the room according to facility policy.	