Important!
This information can also be found in our consolidate User Guide <ins>here</ins>.

Entering COVID-19 Deaths in EpiTrax

EpiTrax Quick Reference Guide

Missouri
DHSS
Department of Health
and Senior Services

EpiTrax

Entering COVID-19 Deaths in EpiTrax

It has come to DHSS' attention that some COVID-19 mortality totals reported on the DHSS Dashboard do not match internal records. EpiTrax is the authoritative source for the DHSS Dashboard totals. It is very important that LHDs enter death-related information as soon as they are notified.

To enter death-related information, follow the steps below:

1. Click on the case's **Clinical** tab

2. Scroll down to the **Mortality Status** section

3. Populate the following fields:
   a) **Died?:** Yes
   b) **Date of death:** enter the case's date of death
   c) **COVID-19 caused death:** select the correct choice

Selecting **Yes** will prompt the question **COVID-19 caused death?** <u>You may not be able to enter a response immediately and will have to update when you receive more information about the official cause of death.</u> However, you should save the record to populate the **Died?** and **Date of Death** fields.

Note: In some cases, the death is confirmed to be as a result of a COVID-19 infection. If COVID-19 was a contributing cause of death, then mark **Yes** to **COVID-19 caused death?**. This includes instances where COVID-19 is listed an <u>immediate</u>, <u>underlying</u>, or <u>contributing</u> cause of death (Part I or Part II of the death certificate).

When a physician or medical examiner has not confirmed COVID-19 as a contributing cause of death, the **COVID-19 caused death?** question should be marked as *No*. In some cases, the answer may be temporarily *Unknown*.

For example, DHSS has received reports on individuals injured in motor vehicle accidents. These patients were tested at the hospital and confirmed as positive for COVID-19. In these cases, LHDs should confirm with the physician or medical examiner if COVID-19 caused the death.

The **Investigation** tab also houses death information, but the **Clinical** tab is the main data source for mortality reporting.

Looking for help?

Contact the EpiTrax Helpdesk with questions:
Telephone: (573) 526-9533
Email: EpiTrax@health.mo.gov
Hours: 8:00 am – 8:00 pm, Monday – Friday

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