



**Healthcare  
Improvement  
Scotland**

# DEATH CERTIFICATION REVIEW SERVICE

**Dr Peter Wiggins**

Medical Reviewer

Death Certification Review Service

Healthcare Improvement Scotland

# WHY

Background  
Time line

# WHAT

Process  
Links

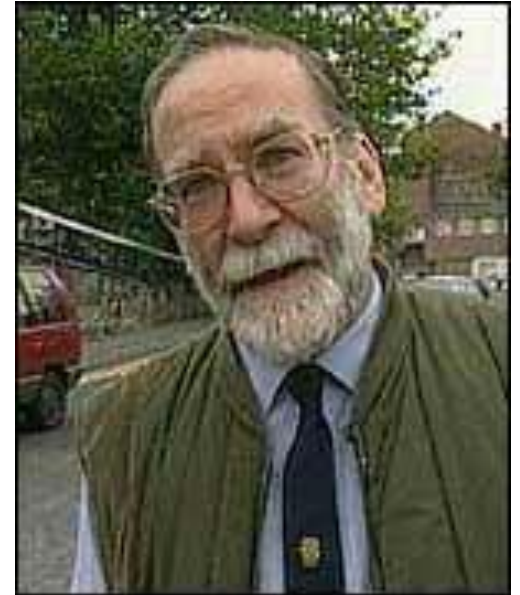
# WHO

The team  
Governance

HOW we're  
doing  
Figures

# WHY DCRS

2000 Dr Shipman found guilty



# WHY DCRS

- Sherriff Brodie “Burial and Cremation Review Group (2008)
- Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011

*Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011 (asp 11)*



## Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011 2011 asp 11

### CONTENTS

Section	
1	Medical reviewers
	<i>Referral of medical certificates of cause of death for review</i>
2	Referral of certain medical certificates of cause of death for review
3	Medical reviewer requests
4	Application for review of certificate by interested person
5	Stay of registration of death pending review
6	Request for review not to stay registration
7	Medical reviewer to determine whether review to stay registration
	<i>Review of medical certificates of cause of death</i>
8	Review of medical certificates of cause of death
9	Action following satisfactory review
10	Action following unsatisfactory review: medical reviewer
11	Action following unsatisfactory review: senior medical reviewer
12	Action where relevant medical practitioner is unavailable or incapacitated
13	Duty to inform following review
	<i>Powers of medical reviewers</i>
14	Power to require documents
15	Documents: offences
	<i>Duty to report suspicions of criminality</i>
16	Involvement of procurator fiscal
	<i>Deaths outwith Scotland</i>
17	Verification of foreign death certificates
18	Medical reviewers to authorise cremation
19	Post-mortem examination of person who died outwith United Kingdom
	<i>Other functions of medical reviewers</i>
20	Training and information functions
21	Duty to co-operate

# WHY DCRS

*Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011 (asp 11)*



Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011  
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- Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011
  - Replaced older legislation

# WHY DCRS

- **Sherriff Brodie** “Burial and Cremation Review Group (2008)
- **Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011**
  - Replaced older legislation

Improve the  
quality and  
accuracy of  
MCCDs\*

Provide better  
public health  
information

Strengthen  
clinical  
governance of  
deaths

\***M**edical **C**ertificate of **C**ause of **D**eath

# WHY DCRS

- **Sherriff Brodie** “Burial and Cremation Review Group (2008)
- **Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011**
  - Replaced older legislation
  - New MCCD form which replaced cremation forms
  - Review of a sample of deaths
  - Requirement to register death before burial
  - Take over repatriations from SG



# WHY DCRS

2011 Legislation

2014 August New MCCD

2015 May DCRS starts. Cremations forms stop ~~££~~

July electronic links to FER<sup>1</sup>

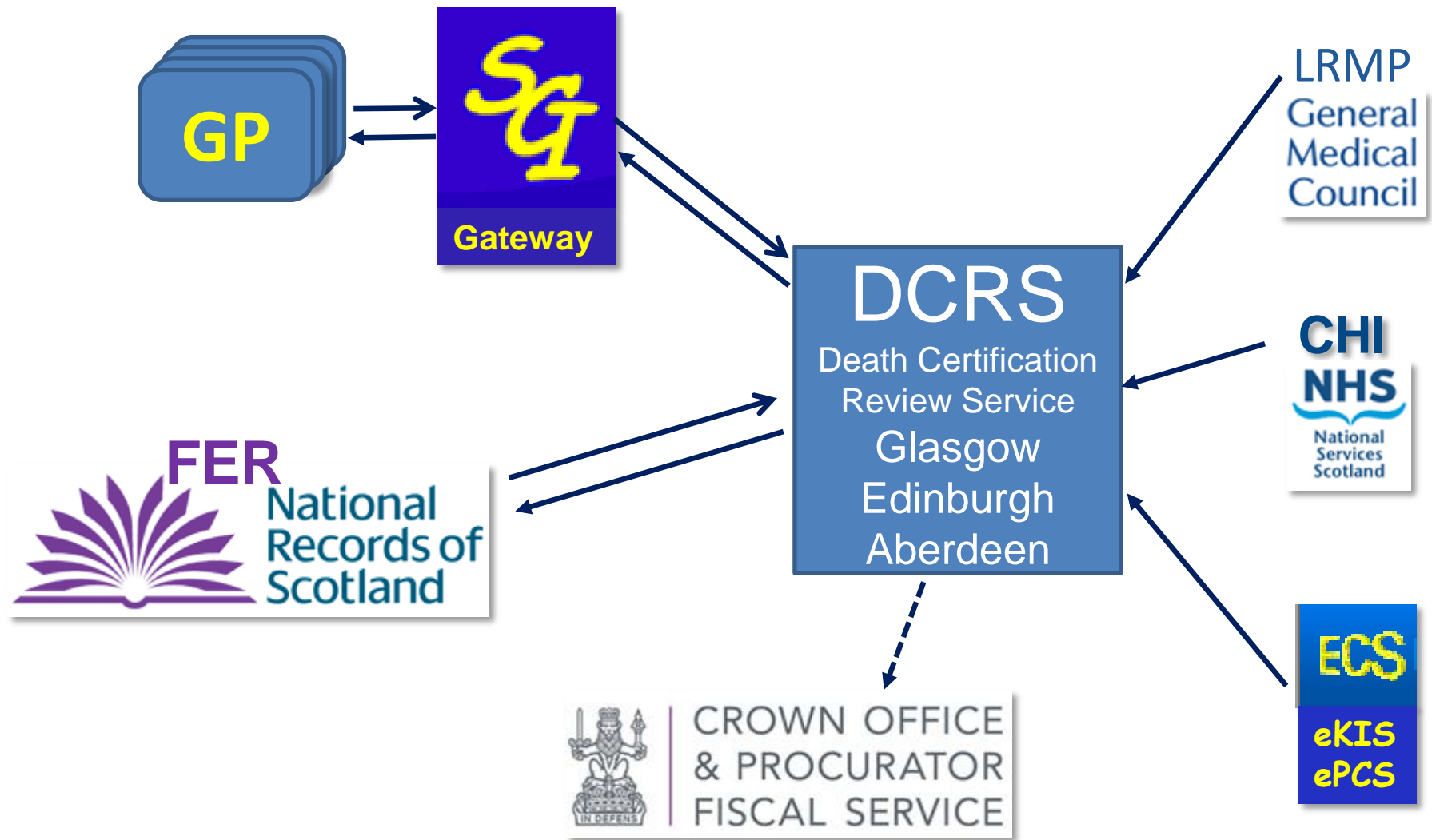
July eMCCD<sup>2</sup> links to DCRS system

August electronic requests to GP practices  
for clinical summaries through Gateway

<sup>1</sup>Forward **E**lectronic **R**egister registration software

<sup>2</sup>electronic MCCD from SCI Gateway

# WHAT



SugarCRM

n24prdsug01/index.php?module=Home&action=index

Cases

Contacts

Documents

Emails

Calls

Tasks

More

Search

Peter Wiggins

+

My Sugar

Sales

Marketing

Support

+

+

 Add Sugar Dashlets

||

 Change Layout

My Open Tasks

Close

Subject

Re

No Data

My Open Cases

Number

MCCD Serial Number

Subject

Status Code

Type

No Data

My Open Tasks

Close

Subject

Related to

Priority

Status

Start Date

Due Date

No Data

Team Notices

Level 2 = 3 working days

Advance Registration = decision within 2hrs

SMR Escalated Cases = 1 working day

Interested Cases = between 2 and 4 working days

My Favorite Records

Name

Module Name

Date Made Favorite

No Data

SUGARCRM

(6 - 10 of 2407)

Reply

Reply

Reply

Reply

Reply

My Calendar

Previous

30 August 2015 - 5 September 2015

Next Week

Week

Sun 30

Mon 31

Tue 01

Wed 02

Thu 03

Fri 04

Sat 05

08:00

09:00

10:00

11:00

12:00

13:00

14:00

n24prdsug01/index.php?module=Home&action=index

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Home Help

# WHAT



## Customer Relationship Management software

FER



# WHAT HAPPENS

Form 11



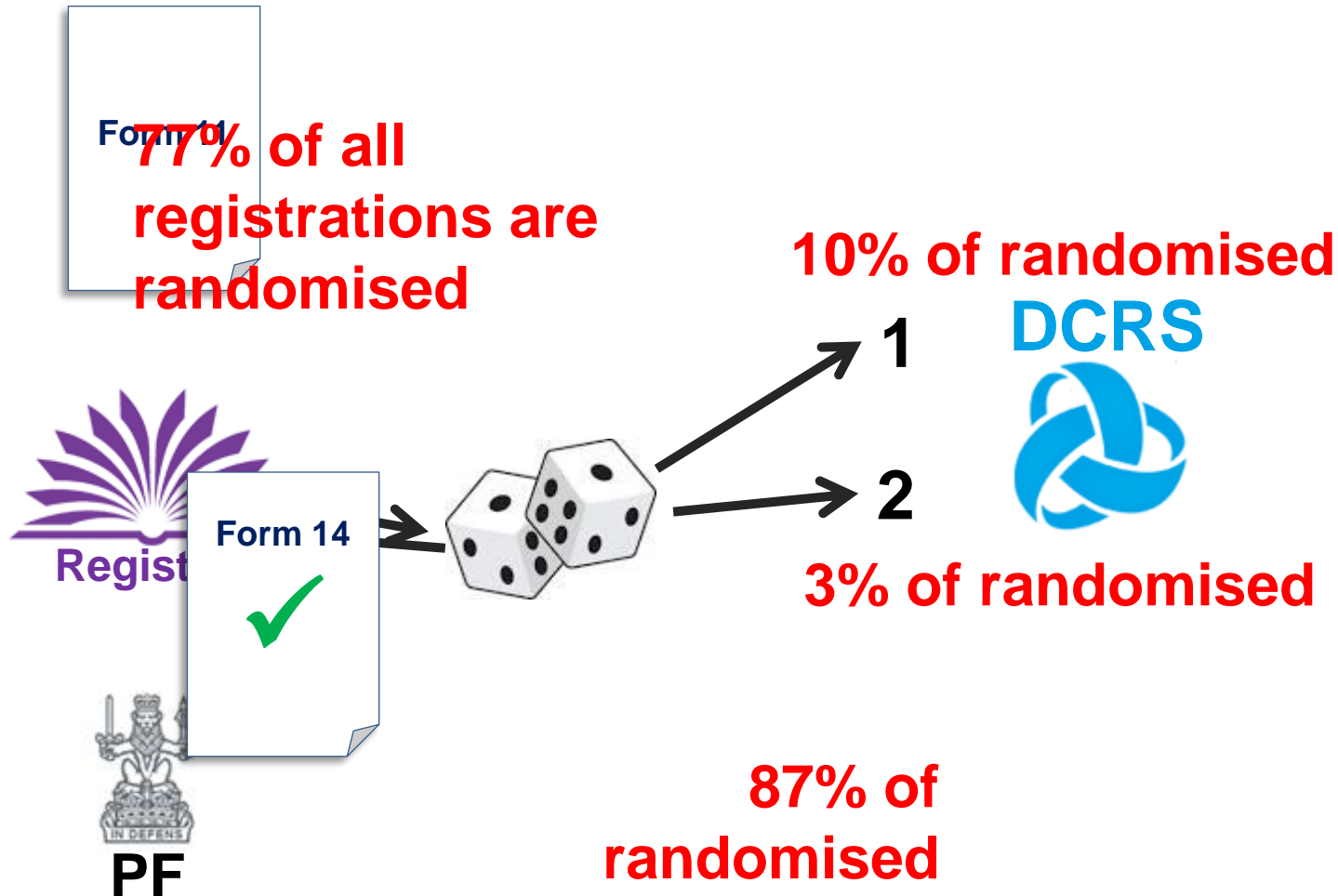
Form 14



PF

**23% of all  
registrations**

# WHAT HAPPENS



# WHAT HAPPENS



## Level 1

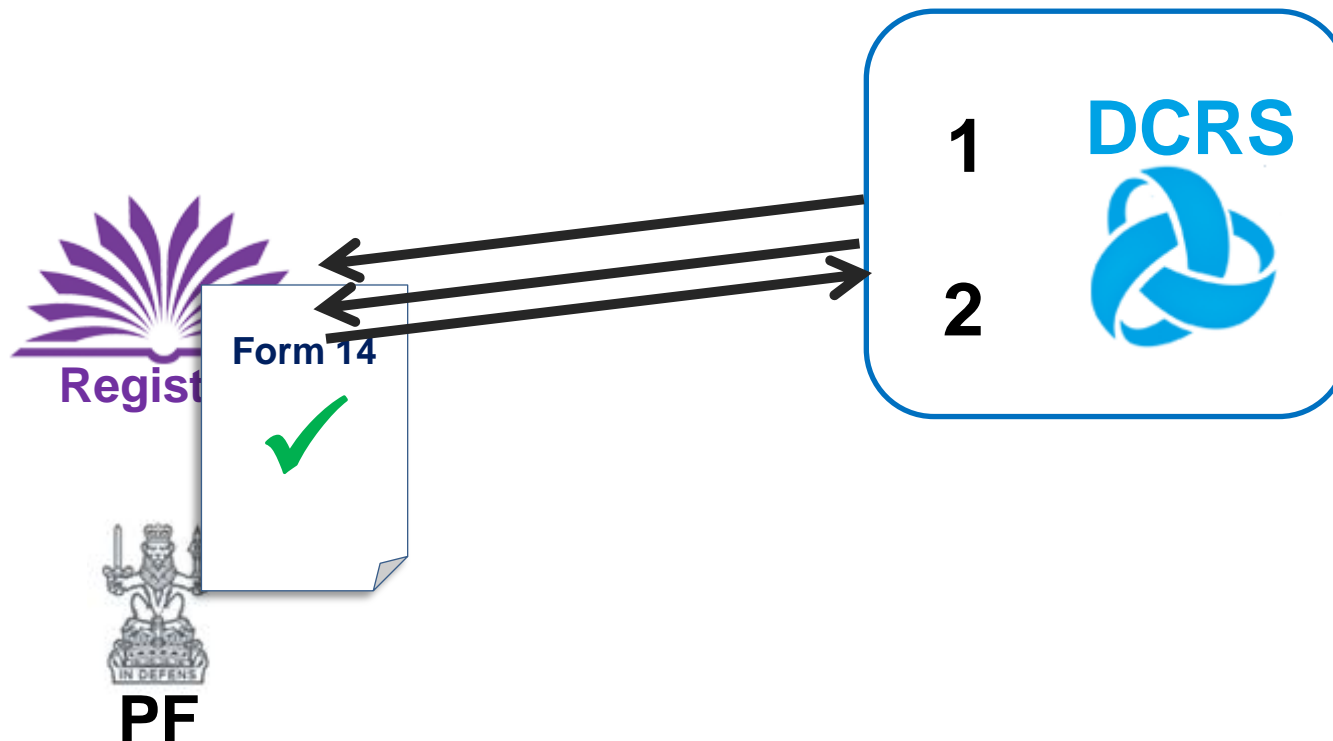
- review of the MCCD alone
- 1 day



## Level 2

- review of notes as well
- 3 days

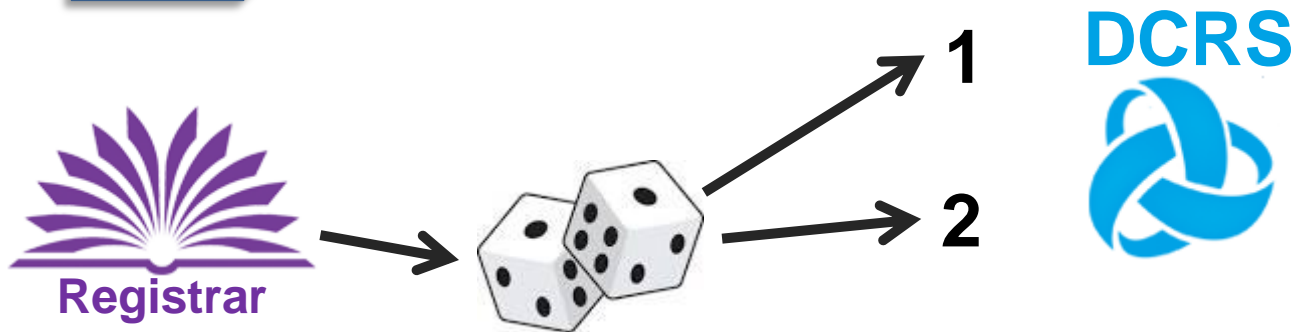
# WHAT HAPPENS





# WHAT HAPPENS – ADVANCED REGISTRATION

Form 11

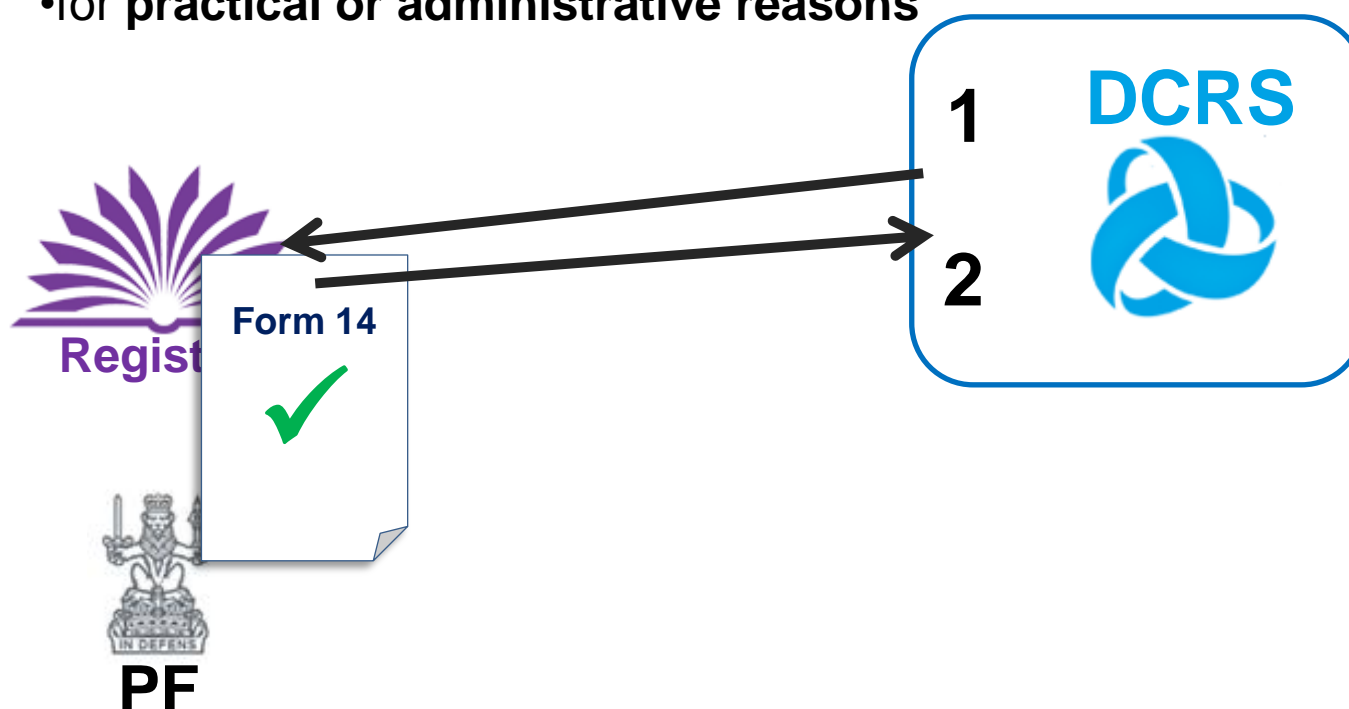


PF

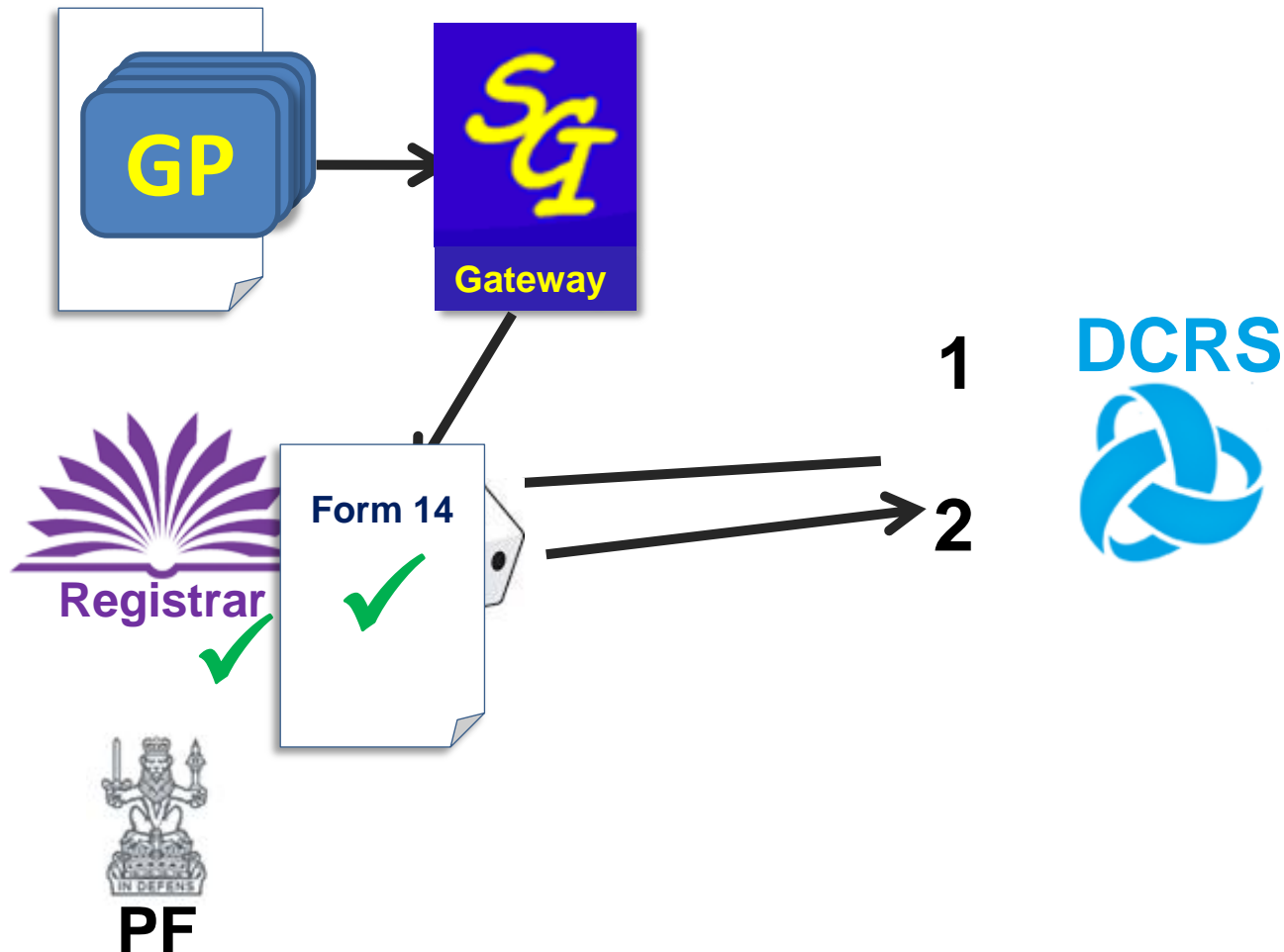
# WHAT HAPPENS – ADVANCED REGISTRATION

## Advanced Registration

- for **religious or cultural reasons**
- for **compassionate reasons**
- for **practical or administrative reasons**



# WHAT HAPPENS – MCCD VIA GATEWAY



# WHAT HAPPENS - GATEWAY

## Producing the eMCCD

- Where to find it

Last successful login: Wednesday 10 December 2014 13:12  
If this is not correct, please contact your local system administrator.

- ▶ You have **31** new messages  
Discharge(3), Death Notification(10), Death Certification Review(18)
- ▶ You have **6** messages in progress  
Referral(4), eMCCD(2)

Home  
Messages ▶  
New Message ▶  
Audit Trail  
Guidance  
Waiting Times  
Preferences  
Security ▶  
Help  
Log Off

**SCI News**

Additional Death Information  
Advice Request  
Death Notification  
**eMCCD**  
Referral

**Local News**

Point to **New Message**  
and click on **eMCCD**

**New eMCCD**

My Favourites:

(Select favourite) ▼

Send to:

Non-NHS Entities ▼

National Records Scotland ▼

Death Certification ▼

Select Non-NHS Entities | National  
Records Scotland | Death  
Certification | eMCCD from the  
relevant drop down lists

Protocol:

eMCCD ▼

# WHAT HAPPENS - GATEWAY

## Producing the eMCCD

- Where to find it
- X Box

### **Extra Information for Statistical Purposes**

I may be able to supply the Registrar General with additional information

- Only use if histology or toxicology is awaited

# WHAT HAPPENS - GATEWAY

## Producing the eMCCD

- Where to find it
- X Box
- When to print it *The family still needs the paper!*
  - “send” the referral then print
  - *Draft* ✗
  - *Duplicate* ✓

# WHAT HAPPENS - GATEWAY

## Producing the eMCCD

- Where to find it
- X Box
- When to print it
- Remember to sign it!



# WHAT HAPPENS - GATEWAY

The instructions for eMCCD are in [Release notes for version 19](#) of SCI Gateway.



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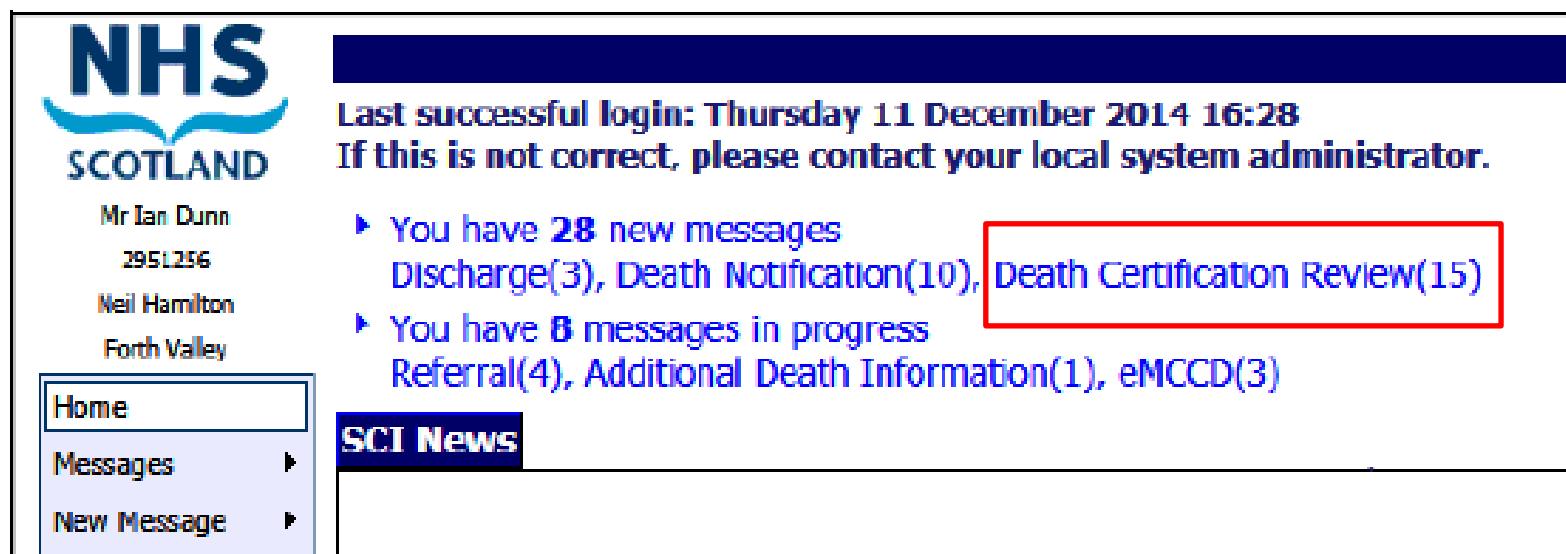
## SCI Gateway

## Version 19.0 Release Notes

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# WHAT HAPPENS - GATEWAY

DCRS can request records from a practice.



The screenshot displays the NHS Scotland Gateway interface. On the left, the NHS Scotland logo is shown above the user's name, Mr Ian Dunn, and his ID number, 2951236. Below this, the user's role, Neil Hamilton, and the practice, Forth Valley, are listed. A navigation menu on the left includes links for Home, Messages, and New Message. The main content area shows the last successful login as Thursday 11 December 2014 16:28, with a prompt to contact the local system administrator if incorrect. A list of messages is displayed, including 28 new messages (Discharge(3), Death Notification(10), and Death Certification Review(15)) and 8 messages in progress (Referral(4), Additional Death Information(1), and eMCCD(3)). The Death Certification Review(15) is highlighted with a red box. Below the message list, there is a section for SCI News.

**NHS SCOTLAND**

Mr Ian Dunn  
2951236  
Neil Hamilton  
Forth Valley

Home  
Messages  
New Message

**Last successful login: Thursday 11 December 2014 16:28**  
**If this is not correct, please contact your local system administrator.**

- ▶ You have **28** new messages  
Discharge(3), Death Notification(10), **Death Certification Review(15)**
- ▶ You have **8** messages in progress  
Referral(4), Additional Death Information(1), eMCCD(3)

**SCI News**

These messages can be work flowed as usual

# WHAT HAPPENS - GATEWAY

There is no reply function for these messages.  
You need to generate another “referral”

Last successful login: Friday 12 December 2014 11:12

If this is not correct, please contact your local system administrator.

**Patient Context**

John Smith (CHI: 0101555059)

[Click here for stand alone SCI and information regarding all of your patients.](#)

**SCI News**

**Local News**

Point to **Message**  
and click on  
**Additional Death**  
**Information**

Home

Messages

New Message

Guidance

Waiting Times

Preferences

Security

Help

Log Off

Additional Death Information

Advice Request

Death Notification

eMCCD

Referral

**New Additional Death Information**

My Favourites:

Death Certification Review Service / Additional Death Info DCRS-High

Send to:

Special Health Boards

NHS24

Services

Death Certification Review Service

Select  
destination  
options from  
the drop  
down lists

Protocol:

Additional Death Info DCRS-High

Select the  
required  
protocol from  
the drop  
down list

# WHAT HAPPENS – OTHER WORK FLOWS

Level 2 reviews can also be requested by

- Interested parties
- Registrars

Repatriations are also handled in a similar way

- Funeral directors provide the information
- Level 2 review is also carried out

# WHO



# WHO

## The team of Medical Reviewers

- ‘senior’ doctors
- Balance of current and former GP’s and current and former consultants (anaesthetist, oncologist, palliative care and public health consultant).
- Most work part time
- Supported by six MR Assistants

# WHO

Healthcare Improvement Scotland

- Part of the Clinical Directorate.





# HOW ARE WE DOING

Over 1700 Certificates Selected For Review

25% MCCDs required email amendments

8% MCCDs required a replacement certificate

In around 9% of reviews Advanced Registration is Requested

60 repatriations

98% of cases dealt with within timescales



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