**UAB Hospital: Death Note Changes – October 2014**

**Instructions:**
- Death Note must be completed by Residents for every deceased patient at the time of death.
- The Death Note must be completed thoroughly as it is used by HIM to create the Electronic Death Certificate.
- Critical items to complete correctly:
  - **Clinical Summary of Events:**
    - **Date/Time of Death** – the date and time of patient's death
    - **Cause of death**
      - Immediate cause of death – provide a specific immediate cause of death
      - Do not include physiologic descriptions such as brain death, asystole, cardiac arrest, respiratory failure, hypoxemia. Please include a description of the disease process believed to be the primary cause; for example myocardial infarction, septic shock, pneumonia, pulmonary embolism; that lead to the physiologic perturbation ultimately resulting in death
      - Secondary causes: Include relevant disease processes (and suspected time line).
      - Relevant underlying disease
    - **Manner/Autopsy** – provide how the patient died
    - **Physician Pronouncing the Death** – provide the name of the physician that pronounced the patient dead
    - **Attending Physician of Record** – provide the name of the attending physician on the patient record responsible for certifying the death certificate
  - **Events Related to Death** – Indicate whether:
    - a code was called
    - the coroner was notified
    - the family was notified
    - there was an autopsy request
    - the death certificate was complete
  - **Resuscitation** – Indicate the type of support and/or resuscitation
  - **Discharge Information**
    - **Discharge Attending** – provide the full name of the discharge attending
    - **Discharge service at the time of death** – provide the name of the discharge service the patient was discharged from at the time of death
Example of Death Note
(access through IMPACT “Death Note” template)

Events prior to patient’s death:

Date/Time of death: 1/1/14, 1400

Cause:
Immediate: Adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), days
Septic shock, days
Pneumonia (days)
Lung cancer (months)
Underlying cause: diabetes (years), coronary artery disease (years), congestive heart failure years

Manner/Autopsy: Natural Cause

Physician Pronouncing Death: ICU Resident (enter specific name)

Attending Physician of Record: ICU Attending (enter specific name)

Events related to death:
Was code called: no
Coroner notified: no
Family notified: yes
Autopsy requested: yes
Death certificate completed: no

Resuscitation: comfort care DNR