What is OVERS?

The Oregon Vital Events Registration System (OVERS) is the Center for Health Statistic's (CHS) secure, web-based vital records system. The system is used to create, register, issue, and amend vital records at funeral homes, doctors' offices, birth hospitals, county vital records offices, and the state vital records office. All hospitals have been required to use OVERS to report births since 2008.

What is EDRS?

The electronic death registration system (EDRS) is the OVERS' module for death records. Data providers (funeral home staff, funeral directors, medical staff and medical certifiers) enter information directly into the secure web-based application. The record is electronically signed/certified and registered automatically or after review at the state office. After registration, the record is immediately available to both the state and county vital records offices for issuance of certified copies.

Are facilities required to use EDRS?

Beginning in January 2014, all hospitals that had more than ten deaths the previous year will be required to have records certified in OVERS for deaths that occur in their hospital. Most Medical Examiners, many hospices and other specialty practices, and a few facilities have used OVERS successfully for several years.

Funeral homes are not required to use EDRS, but the majority has recognized the benefits of using OVERS and only four percent of Oregon deaths in 2015 were reported as fully paper records.

What level of access will staff have to enter information?

Funeral homes can have distinct roles for staff in OVERS.

Funeral directors can complete and sign the personal information section of a report of death. Funeral directors can also create and sign amendments to records as needed. Funeral directors can be assigned to more than one funeral home, but must sign in to the funeral home that 'owns' the record to see it.

Funeral home specialists can prepare reports of death in the system for funeral directors' signature. Funeral home specialists can perform all activities in OVERS except sign the record. This includes confirming the social security number through OVS, requesting medical certification from a doctor, or preparing an amendment to

a record for the funeral director's signature. This role is generally assigned to funeral home apprentices or office staff as the funeral home decides.

If an individual other than the funeral director will be accessing OVERS, that individual must have a separate user name and password. Funeral home specialists can also be assigned to more than one funeral home if needed.

What do we need to do to implement OVERS?

There are a few decisions to make for OVERS. We are happy to provide more information and to work with you in selecting the options that will best meet your funeral home's needs.

1. How do you want staff to interact with OVERS? This includes selecting the roles your funeral home will use and assigning staff to the roles.
2. How will staff be trained? Training can be online self-paced, group online (live), or cross-training by an active OVERS user at the funeral home. Formal training is not required to use the system.
3. The placement of biometric devices is a decision for each funeral home. CHS does not have the funds to purchase thousands of devices for each user to have their own, but can provide two to six devices, depending on needs, to be placed in strategic areas. As long as the reader software is on the computer, biometric readers can be moved among computers as easily as unplugging and plugging in a computer mouse. *See the Information Technology FAQ for more specific information on the biometrics reader.*

Are there costs associated with OVERS?

There are no user fees for the system. Maintenance costs of the web-based system are paid by the Center for Health Statistics. Users need only provide an appropriate Windows computer and internet access. *See the Information Technology FAQ for more specific information.* All training, biometric equipment and support for the OVERS system is provided without cost to the data provider.

What are the benefits of OVERS?

OVERS:
- Speeds up record completion. Electronic records can be completed in a single day by multiple participants, making it available for families to receive certified copies much more quickly.
- Reduces changes to records by checking for common human errors and omissions before a record is signed.

- Simplifies the entry process, displaying only information relevant to specific users and autofilling address, license and other information.
- Eliminates the need to send paper records back and forth for signatures. Electronic records do not get lost.

Where can I get training?

We offer multiple training methods. Training is most often provided through an interactive web session. We also have posted trainings on our website on use of OVERS and completion of death records. We will be adding additional trainings as developed. Call our help desk for more information about training options for your specific needs.

Is there a help desk?

Yes. The help desk is available from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday by calling 971-673-0279. We also have a website with information including tutorials, frequently asked questions, and user enrollment forms at http://healthoregon.org/overs.