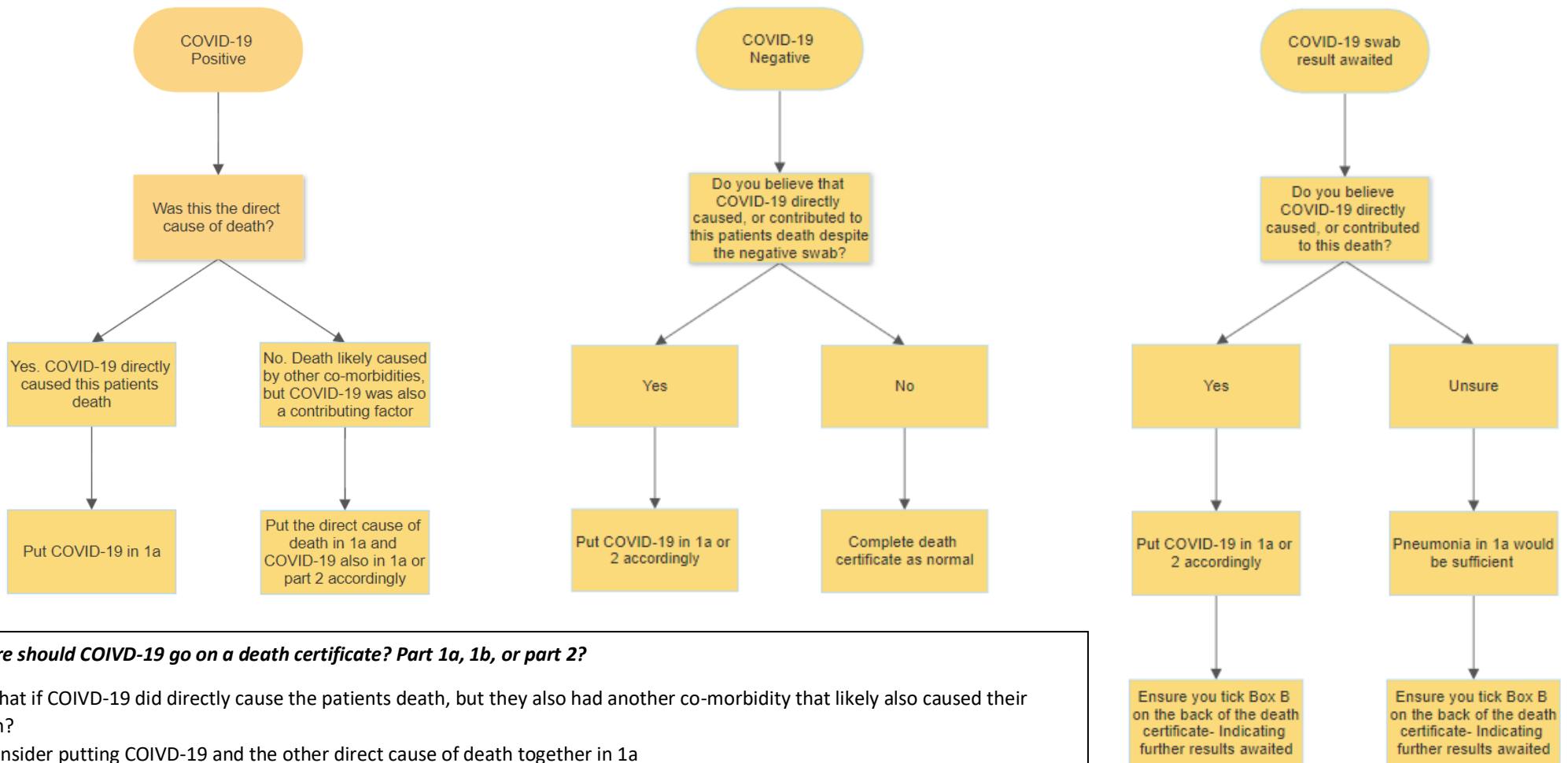


Death Certification Guidance: COVID-19

Completion of a death certificate should **NOT** be delayed until a swab result is received.

If Box B is ticked on the back of a death certificate for the awaited swab result, then it is the responsibility of the Doctor completing the certificate to chase this result and inform the Registrar (of deaths).



Where should COVID-19 go on a death certificate? Part 1a, 1b, or part 2?

Q: What if COVID-19 did directly cause the patient's death, but they also had another co-morbidity that likely also caused their death?

A: Consider putting COVID-19 and the other direct cause of death together in 1a

Q: If COVID-19 was not the primary cause of death, should COVID-19 go in part 1b or part 2?

A: If the condition directly leading to death would have caused death regardless of currently COVID-19 infection, then COVID-19 should go in part 2.

Accurate as of 14/04/20

Authors: FJ, NM, JB

Reference: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877302/guidance-for-doctors-completing-medical-certificates-of-cause-of-death-covid-19.pdf (Updated 01/04/20)