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| **Key People(s)** | **What do they do?** | **How do they carry out their role?** | **What to ask or tell them?** |
| Whānau Family | Choose a lead whānau member to* Be a first point of contact for professionals involved
* Ask for clear processes
* Ask questions for the whānau
* Communicate back to whānau
 | * Supportive to whānau pani
* Readily available and active
* Easily contactable
* Clear communications
* Identify key whānau members for different tasks
 |  |
| Pirihimana Policewww.police.govt.nz | * A go between that acts on behalf of the coroner
* There will be an investigating officer
 | * Investigates circumstances around the death.
* Communicates with whānau to ensure they are kept informed
 | Let police know who the key whānau contact is. **Ask*** What happens now?
* Who is the key police contact?
* Who can go with the body?
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| Tākuta Doctor | Provides sign off for the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) needed before burial/cremation | Certifying cause of death.If unable to certify, they refer to a police officer or coroner | * Had they been unwell recently?
* Had they been to the doctor recently?
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| Kaitirotiro Tūpāpaku CoronerPhone the National Initial Investigation Office (NIIO)on **0800 266 800** (day or night) for info about processes on a recent death**Email:** NIIO@justice.govt.nz | * Confirms identity of deceased
* Assesses information/evidence form police
* Clarifies and confirms cause of death (e.g. hereditary, injury, unexpected, no obvious cause, suicide, toxicology
* Decides whether a post-mortem is needed
 | * Works with police, whānau and pathologist
* Decides whether to have an inquiry
* Opens an inquiry
* Orders a post-mortem (autopsy)
* Directs release of body
 | You will mostly talk to the coroner on the phone as they may not be based in your area* What happens with tissue samples?
* What is the process for an autopsy?
* If I want samples returned what is the process?
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| KaiwhakatewhatewhaTūpāpaku Pathologist | Performs the post-mortem (autopsy) at designated hospital (a regional service not available in every town) to figure out the medical cause of deathForensic pathologists deal with complex or suspicious circumstances | By examining the deceased to determine cause of death and provide a report to the coroner. They may take tissue samples. | You can ask for a copy of the pathologist’s report. Some exceptions apply e.g. forms that are part of a police investigation.  |