

Coronial Autopsy Study – Organisational Data

Workload: =< 52 autopsies per annum

THE MORTUARY

Mortuary Number	Figures for calendar year 1 st April 2004 – 31 st March 2005			
	Number of coronial autopsies	Number of pathologists using the mortuary	Number of coroners using the mortuary	Number of whole time equivalent anatomical pathology technologists assisting with examinations
43	20	2	1	1
49	31	4	1	1
95	4	4	1	3
97	21	12	6	2.5
104	19	5	1	1.3
125	35	11	10	2
139	4	2	4	2
189	19	4	26	1.5

Mortuary number	Age groups autopsied			
	Under 1 year old	1 – 5 years old	6 – 15 years old	Adult (16 and over)
43	x	x	x	✓
49	x	x	x	✓
95	x	x	x	✓
97	x	x	x	✓
104	✓	✓	✓	✓
125	✓	✓	✓	✓
139	✓	✓	✓	x
189	x	x	x	✓

Definitions	
✓	Yes
x	No

Mortuary Number	Does the mortuary keep a record of autopsies?	How are instruction for autopsy given				Does the mortuary have on site shower facilities?	Does the mortuary have an on site changing room?
		Written	Orally	Combination of written and oral	Unknown		
43	✓	✓				✓	✓
49	✓			✓		✓	✓
95	✓	✓				✓	✓
97	✓			✓		✓	✓
104	✓			✓		✓	✓
125	✓			✓		✓	✓
139	✓			✓		✓	✓
189	✓			✓		✓	✓

Definitions	
✓	Yes
×	No

Mortuary Number	Clothing worn when performing autopsies		
	Protective clothing over surgical scrubs	Protective clothing over day clothes	Other
43	✓	×	×
49	✓	×	×
95	✓	✓	×
97	✓	×	×
104	✓	×	×
125	✓	✓	×
139	✓	✓	×
189	✓	×	×

Definitions	
✓	Yes
×	No

PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES

Mortuary Number	Are written protocols in place for autopsy performance?	Who do protocols apply to?		
		Pathologist	Anatomical pathology technician	Both
43	✓			✓
49	✓	✓		
95	✓		✓	
97	✓			✓
104	✘	N/A	N/A	N/A
125	✓			✓
139	✓			✓
189	✓			✓

Definitions	
✓	Yes
✘	No
N/A	Not applicable

Mortuary Number	Hepatitis B		Hepatitis C		HIV		TB		CJD	
	Autopsy performed	Written protocol in place	Autopsy performed	Written protocol in place	Autopsy performed	Written protocol in place	Autopsy performed	Written protocol in place	Autopsy performed	Written protocol in place
43	x	–	x	–	x	–	✓	✓	x	–
49	x	–	x	–	x	–	x	–	x	–
95	✓	✓	✓	✓	–	–	✓	✓	–	–
97	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
104	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x
125	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	x	✓	x	✓
139	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
189	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Definitions	
✓	Yes
x	No
–	Not answered

Mortuary Number	Does the mortuary have CPA or equivalent?	Is it mandatory a pathologist sees a body before evisceration?	Who does the evisceration of most of the bodies?		
			Pathologist	Anatomical Pathology Technologist	Other
43	✓	✓		✓	
49	✗	✓		✓	
95	✓	✗		✓	
97	✓	✓			✓
104	✓	✗	✓		
125	✓	✓	✓		
139	✓	✓	✓	✓	
189	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Definitions	
✓	Yes
✗	No

EQUIPMENT

Mortuary Number	Are all bodies measured for height?	Are all bodies weighed?	Does the mortuary have organ scales?	Does the mortuary have access to an electric skull saw?	Does the mortuary have access or ready access to x-ray equipment on site?
43	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
49	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
95	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
97	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
104	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
125	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
139	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
189	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Definitions	
✓	Yes
✗	No

FACILITIES

Mortuary Number	Histology	Toxicology	Other laboratory investigations	Is there a documented chain of custody for samples as they are processed for the pathologist?
43	✓	✓	✓	✓
49	✓	x	✓	✓
95	✓	✓	✓	✓
97	✓	✓	✓	✓
104	✓	x	✓	✓
125	✓	x	x	✓
139	✓	x	✓	✓
189	✓	✓	✓	✓

Definitions	
✓	Yes
x	No

Mortuary Number	Formalin for fixation	Storage facilities for fixed tissues and organs	Separate room/suite for high risk infectious autopsies	Adequate lighting	Additional spotlights for more detailed examinations
43	✓	x	x	✓	✓
49	x	x	x	✓	✓
95	✓	✓	x	x	✓
97	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
104	✓	✓	x	✓	x
125	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
139	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
189	✓	✓	x	✓	x

Definitions	
✓	Yes
x	No

Mortuary Number	Office area for pathologist to write up or dictate notes	Total number of eviscerating bodies in the mortuary	Separate organ dissecting tables	Moving air ventilation with temperature control	Viewing facilities for clinicians
43	✓	2	✓	✓	✓
49	✗	1	✓	✓	✗
95	✓	2	✓	✓	✗
97	✓	6	✓	✓	✓
104	✓	2	✓	✗	✓
125	✓	2	✓	✓	✓
139	✓	1	✓	✓	✓
189	✓	2	✓	✓	✓

Definitions	
✓	Yes
✗	No