



In cases that involve the collection of trace evidence (eg, sexual assault, pedestrian struck by motor vehicle, strangulation) appropriate evidence is collected.

NOTE: Appropriate hair samples, swabs, nail clippings/scrapings, and trace evidence are collected for the decedent. Bite marks must be processed according to the procedure consistent with current forensic odontology practice.

REFERENCES

- 1) National Association of Medical Examiners. NAME Inspection and Accreditation Checklist for Autopsy Services. February 2013.

ANP.36025	Specimen Collection	Phase II
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Specimens are routinely collected and retained for toxicology, potential DNA analysis, and histological examination, as applicable.

NOTE: In cases of delayed death in hospitalized victims, the earliest available appropriate specimens should be obtained from the hospital, as applicable.

ANP.36050	Unidentified Bodies	Phase II
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The laboratory has defined actions to be taken prior to the disposition of unidentified bodies (eg, finger printing, photographs/images, radiographs, dentition, DNA sample storage, medical history/devices) to allow for potential future identification.

ANP.36075	Photographs	Phase II
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Photographs are taken, as appropriate, to include:

- Evidence, foreign material, blood patterns, injuries, and other items pertinent to determining the cause and manner of death or necessary for medicolegal interpretation or presentation
- Orientation photographs and close-ups of injuries with measurement scales
- Identification photographs of decedent.

NOTE: The identifying label must be placed in a location that does not obscure the identifying features of the decedent.

ANP.36100	Autopsy Notes and Photographs	Phase I
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Written notes and photographs are taken to an extent that would allow reconstruction of the autopsy report if dictations are lost or damaged.

ANP.36125	Record and Material Retention - Forensic Autopsy	Phase II
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Forensic autopsy pathology records and materials are retained for an appropriate period.

NOTE 1: There must be a written policy for protecting and preserving the integrity and retrieval of forensic autopsy service materials and records. The retention period shall be sufficient for use of the materials in the institution's quality improvement activities (eg, morbidity and mortality conferences). Policies for retention of records and materials must comply with federal, state (or provincial), and local laws and regulations, and with the retention periods listed in the table below, whichever is most stringent.

Forensic Autopsies