



NOTE: To assess the appropriateness of performing a hospital autopsy, the department must be familiar with applicable statutes and/or regulations that identify hospital deaths subject to medical examiner or coroner jurisdiction. The department should maintain a copy of applicable statute(s) and/or regulation(s) that identify those deaths that are in the jurisdiction of the medical examiner and/or coroner.

REFERENCES

- 1) Schandl CA, et al. Forensic Pathology. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists: 2017; chap. 24.

AUTOPSY ROOM

Inspector Instructions:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sampling of temperature checks/logs • Sampling of scale/balance calibration records
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autopsy room and facilities (clean, sufficient lighting and space) • Photographic facilities • Access to the morgue

ANP.32180 Limited Access

Phase II

Access to the morgue or body receiving and handling areas and autopsy suite is limited and controlled.

NOTE: Family viewing areas, if applicable, must be separate to prevent visual and biohazard exposure to autopsy.

REFERENCES

- 1) Hanzlick RL, et al. Autopsy Facility Design. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists: 2017; chap 9.

ANP.32200 Adequate Space and Lighting

Phase I

There is sufficient space and the autopsy room is clean and well-maintained, with adequate lighting.

NOTE: The space should be sufficient for the workload requirements of the service. The autopsy room should be dedicated to the performance of autopsies. Other functions (eg, storage teaching, tissue procurement) should not interfere with the safe performance of the autopsy and the cleaning of the facility.

REFERENCES

- 1) Hazlett SO. Perspectives in pathology. The newly designed morgue. *Advance/Lab*. 2000;9(1):10-11
- 2) Hanzlick RL, et al. Autopsy Facility Design. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists: 2017; chap 9.

ANP.32400 Adequate Storage

Phase II

Provisions are available for satisfactory storage of bodies (refrigeration or embalming).

NOTE: For refrigeration, the temperature should be in the range of 34-40° F (1.1-4.4° C).

Evidence of Compliance:

- ✓ Records of temperature checks

REFERENCES

- 1) Hanzlick RL, et al. Autopsy Facility Design. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists: 2017; chap 9.

ANP.32450 Scale/Balance**Phase I**

A scale and/or balance are provided for reliable weighing of organs.

NOTE: If infants or fetuses are autopsied at the institution, accuracy of balances to 1.0 gm for infants and 0.1 gm for fetuses must be verified by periodic calibration.

Evidence of Compliance:

- ✓ Record of scale calibration checks and scale in use is appropriate for the types of cases performed

REFERENCES

- 1) Hanzlick RL, et al. Autopsy Facility Design. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists: 2017; chap 9.
- 2) Tan CD, et al. Autopsy Performance. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists: 2017; chap 15.
- 3) Conran RM, et al. The Pediatric Autopsy. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists: 2017; chap 17.

ANP.32500 Temperature and Ventilation**Phase I**

Ambient temperature and ventilation control are adequate.

NOTE: Airborne infectious agent control requires appropriate ventilation.

REFERENCES

- 1) Hazlett SO. Perspectives in pathology. The newly designed morgue. *Advance/Lab*. 2000;9(1):10-11
- 2) Hanzlick RL, et al. Autopsy Facility Design. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists: 2017; chap 9.

ANP.32550 Photographic Equipment**Phase I**

Photographic equipment is available, convenient, and functional.

REFERENCES

- 1) Belanger AJ, et al. Implementation of a practical digital imaging system for routine gross photography in an autopsy environment. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. 2000;124:160-165
- 2) Hanzlick RL, et al. Autopsy Facility Design. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists: 2017; chap 9.
- 3) Oliver WR. Considerations for Gross Autopsy Photography. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists: 2017; chap 30.
- 4) Schoppe C. Photomicrography. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists: 2017; chap 31.

AUTOPSY PERFORMANCE AND RECORDS

Inspector Instructions:



- Sampling of policies and procedures for autopsy performance, intra- and extra-departmental consultations, reporting, and record retention
- Sampling of records of case review/pre-autopsy discussion
- Specimen collection records (as applicable)
- Sampling of final autopsy reports for completeness and pathology review