

- Responsible individual communicating the result
- Person notified using identifiers traceable to that person (a first name alone is inadequate)
- Findings communicated.

An appropriate notification includes a direct dialog with the responsible individual or an electronic communication (secure email or fax) with confirmation of receipt by the responsible individual.

This communication must be recorded; it may be included directly on the patient report or in a separate location. It is not necessary to separately summarize the findings communicated if the record of the communication is on the patient report. For communications recorded in a separate location, the findings communicated may be summarized or reference the case number.

This requirement takes the place of critical result notification in the All Common Checklist (COM.30000 and COM.30100) for autopsy findings.

Evidence of Compliance:



- ✓ Records of communications of significant/unexpected findings

REFERENCES

- 1) Caruso JL. Communication of Autopsy Results. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 3rd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists; 2017; chap 36.

AUTOPSY CONSENT PROCEDURES

Inspector Instructions:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sampling of autopsy consent policies and procedures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does your laboratory identify cases that are subject to medical examiner and/or coroner jurisdiction? • What procedures would you follow if record review or other information identified a case that could be subject to medical examiner and/or coroner jurisdiction (for example, a pulmonary embolism following trauma)?

ANP.31070 Autopsy Consent

Phase II



There is a defined process for obtaining autopsy consent, including who may give consent and how consent may be given.

Evidence of Compliance:

- ✓ Records of autopsy consent

REFERENCES

- 1) College of American Pathologists. CAP Policies and Documents Pertaining to the Autopsy. In: Collins KA, ed. *Autopsy Pathology and Reporting*. 36125. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists; 2017; chap 5
- 2) McDermott MB. Obtaining consent for autopsy. *BMJ*. 2003; 327(7418):804-6.
- 3) Rosenbaum GE, Burns J, Johnson J, Mitchell C, Robinson M, Truog RD. Autopsy Consent Practice at US Teaching Hospitals: Results of a National Survey. *Arch Intern Med*. 2000; 160(3):374-80.

ANP.31100 Medical Examiner Jurisdiction

Phase II



There are guidelines covering possible medical examiner or coroner jurisdiction over hospital deaths to assess the appropriateness of performing a hospital autopsy.