Lothian Critical Care Directorate Guidelines

Donation of a body to the Anatomy Department

Where there is a wish expressed by the patient or family for donation of the body to the anatomy department, this can be discussed with the Anatomy Bequest Co-ordinator see bequest form and accompanying information sheet for contact details.

The request can only proceed if the <u>patient</u> signs a bequest for donation, or has arranged it in the past prior to admission, or has a specific codicil in their will to donate their body to medical science. The anatomy department <u>cannot</u> process requests made by the family after death or if the patient is not competent.

The signed form is a letter of intent, and not acceptance by the anatomy department.

If the bequest proceeds then at some stage after death, the doctor who signs the death certificate will be required to sign another certificate which will be sent to the anatomy department.

The above should not occur if the death is to be reported to the Procurator Fiscal unless the Fiscal has given permission.