

Survey regarding medical/hospital autopsies in Europe.

To National Boards of Pathology in Europe, from ESP working group n Autopsy pathology.

(The survey may also be answered by individual pathologists in each country.)

Please answer within April 30th 2017.

Your contact address:

Country: _____

Correspondence address (e-mail): _____

National regulations:

1. 1. Do you have laws regulating medical/hospital autopsies? Yes / No

1.2. If yes: link to web-site with law: _____

or attach a copy of the law

1.3. If you have different types of regulations within different regions in your country, please explain and give the links to as many regulations as possible:

Consent

2. Types of consent from next of kin: 2.1. No consent necessary Yes / No

2.2. Oral consent, no signature required Yes / No

2.3. Written consent, signature required Yes / No

2.4. Other types of consent (specify below) Yes / No

National Autopsy rate 2015**(If numbers not available, please explain why)**

- 3.1. Number of deaths, in total: _____
- 3.2. Medical (hospital) autopsies, in total: _____
- 3.3. Forensic autopsies: _____
- 3.4. Coroner autopsies: _____
- 3.5. Numbers of pathology departments with medical autopsy service: _____
- 3.6. Numbers of institutions/departments with forensic autopsy service: _____

Who perform medical autopsies (please answer all)

- 4.1. Public hospitals only Yes / No
- 4.2. Public and private hospitals: Yes / No
- 4.3. Hospitals with pathology departments only Yes / No
- 4.4. Outpatient service to hospitals/institutions with no pathology departments available: Yes / No
- 4.5. Others (please specify) _____

Payment of medical autopsies (please answer all)**In cases of death in hospitals**

- 5.1. Public health system, through taxes Yes / No
- 5.2. Health insurances Yes / No
- 5.3. Private, next of kin pay for autopsies Yes / No

In cases of death outside hospitals

- 5.1. Public health system, through taxes Yes / No
- 5.2. Health insurances Yes / No
- 5.3. Private, next of kin pay for autopsies Yes / No
- 5.4. If other financing solutions, please specify:

In cases of presumed natural deaths outside hospitals, how are they handled in regard to medical autopsy

6.1. Coronial system, coroners decision if autopsy is performed Yes / No

6.2. Responsibility of doctor who certifies death Yes / No

6.3. No formal regulations/system for autopsies of death outside hospitals Yes / No

6.4. Medical autopsies are not performed in cases of death outside hospitals Yes / No

6.5. Other solutions, please specify: _____

Potential reasons for decline in autopsy rate in your country

7. 1. Your opinion? Please specify: _____

7.2. Has the decline of autopsies been subject to discussion in your national pathology society?

Yes / No

Standardization

8. Do you have written guidelines for autopsies

8.1. At your institution? Yes / No

8.2. On a national level (issued by your medical society or others) Yes / No

8.3. Is there a defined time limit for completion of autopsies? Yes / No

8.4. If so, please specify in months. _____

Education of pathologists in autopsy pathology

9. Number of autopsies required to become a pathologist in your country

9.1. Number of medical autopsies: _____

9.2. Number of forensic autopsies (if mandatory) _____

9.3. Forensic autopsies may be included (not mandatory) Yes / No

9.4. Number of prenatal/pediatric autopsies (if mandatory) : _____

9.5. Prenatal/pediatric autopsies may be included (not mandatory): Yes / No

9.6. Autopsy pathology is a subspecialty of pathology Yes / No

If yes: Number of autopsies required for subspecialization: _____

10. Do you have sufficient number of autopsies for specialists in training?

10.1. At you institution? Yes / No

10.2. At a national level? Yes / No

10.3. If no, how do residents acquire enough autopsies? Please specify:

Autopsy technicians/assistants

11.1. Is Autopsy Technician a publicly approved education in your country? Yes / No

11.2. Autopsy technicians have no formal education, are trained at each institution: Yes / No

12.1. Are autopsy technicians in your country organized? Yes / No

12.2. If yes, please specify the organization and give the link to their web-site or e-mail address:

Neuropathology

13.1. Is neuropathology a separate medical specialty? Yes / No

13.2. Neuropathology is a subspecialty of pathology/performed by pathologists Yes / No

14. Do you have enough neuropathology capacity?

14.1. At your institution? Yes / No / Do not have neuropathology service

14.2. Nationally? Yes / No

14.3. Estimated average time til neuropathology autopsy report, in months. _____

Forensic Pathology

15.1. Is forensic pathology a separate medical specialty? Yes / No

15.2. If yes: does the education include praxis in pathology? Yes / No

15.3. Please specify type and length of pathology practice required:

15.4. Forensic pathology is a subspecialty of pathology/performed by pathologists Yes / No

Comments

Please feel free to give any additional comments on the subject of medical autopsies here: