

# HOKLAS Supplementary Criteria No. 23

## “Medical Testing” Test Category – Autopsy

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Supplementary Criteria is an amplification and interpretation of the requirements of HKAS 002 and HOKLAS 015 for the accreditation of examinations in autopsy within the Medical Testing Test Category. This document sets out only those specific requirements which require further elaboration but does not include all the accreditation requirements. This Supplementary Criteria needs to be read in conjunction with HKAS 002 and HOKLAS 015.
- 1.2 The checklist given in the Annex serves as guidance for laboratories to self-assess their management system and operation procedures against the requirements given in HOKLAS 015 and this document.

### 2 Personnel

- 2.1 A qualified anatomical pathologist shall be a pathologist who has obtained postgraduate qualification in anatomical pathology, such as the Fellowship of Hong Kong College of Pathologists, or equivalent as advised by the College.
- 2.2 Pathology trainee shall be a registered medical practitioner who is enrolled in a training programme recognised by the Hong Kong College of Pathologists, or equivalent as advised by the College.
- 2.3 Medically qualified individuals in specialties other than anatomical pathology shall have adequate autopsy training equivalent to the level as advised by the Hong Kong College of Pathologists and similar to that of a fellow under the specialty of anatomical pathology.

- 2.4 Pathologists shall fulfill the 3-year cycle of CME/CPD requirement of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine or Hong Kong Medical Council or equivalent bodies.

### **3 Accommodation and environmental conditions**

- 3.1 Autopsy tables, dissection areas, instruments, and reusable aprons shall be adequately disinfected after use.
- 3.2 The administrative area shall be separate from the autopsy rooms and body receiving area.

### **4 Examination procedures**

- 4.1 There shall be a manual for proper handling and examination of highly infectious cases.
- 4.2 All autopsies shall be performed by a qualified anatomical pathologist or pathology trainee under the direct supervision of a qualified anatomical pathologist.

### **5 Post-examination procedures**

- 5.1 The minimum retention period for request forms, copies of reports, slides and blocks shall be as follows:

Request forms	3 years
Slides	20 years
Blocks	20 years
Copies of reports	20 years, permanent if possible

## **6 Reporting of results**

- 6.1 The autopsy shall be reported by a qualified anatomical pathologist or pathology trainee under the direct supervision of a qualified anatomical pathologist.
- 6.2 The final autopsy report shall contain sufficient information in an appropriate format to ascertain the patient's major disease processes and probable cause of death.
- 6.3 Where relevant, photographs (physical or digital) should be taken for proper documentation.

HKAS Executive  
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