RESCISSION OF VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (VHA) DIRECTIVE 2011-019, THE AUTOPSY AS A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF QUALITY MANAGEMENT


2. This Directive is no longer necessary because all requirements for the performance of autopsies and data collection and reporting have been incorporated into VHA Handbook 1106.01, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Services (P&LMS) Procedures, dated January 29, 2016. The Director of Clinical Services or Chief of Staff of the medical facility is responsible to the medical center Director for overall management of post-mortem examination services as outlined in VHA Handbook 1106.01, Section 16, Post-Mortem Examination. Responsibilities include:


   b. Ensuring there are adequate physical facilities, staff, and resources to ensure that autopsies are performed safely and with minimal risk from infection, and

   c. Ensuring that results of autopsies are included in facility medical staff education and quality management programs.

3. All inquiries concerning this action should be addressed to P&LMS National Director or P&LMS Program (10P4D) at 202-632-8418 or VHA CO P&LMS PMO.

4. This VHA Notice will be archived as of October 31, 2017. However, the information will remain in effect.

David J. Shulkin, M.D.
Under Secretary for Health

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