

1.3 – Autopsy

1. What is an autopsy and how can it be used to determine the cause of death? 6. What biomedical science professionals are involved in crime scene analysis and determination of manner of death?

- Autopsies are performed in which 4 circumstances?

- Which medical professional performs autopsies?

- Autopsies reveal information about all of the systems of the body. Briefly summarize the function of each system listed below.

| Urinary “place for pee” | Nervous “full of nerves” | Endocrine “secrete within” | Digestive | Respiratory | Cardiovascular “heart and vessels” | Immune |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Kidneys Ureters Urethra Bladder | Brain Spinal cord Peripheral nerves Sense organs | Pancreas Thymus Thyroid Pituitary Pineal gland Adrenal gland Ovaries/testes | Teeth/tongue Salivary glands Pharynx Esophagus Stomach Small intestine Large intestine Rectum Liver Gallbladder | Lungs Pharynx Trachea Bronchioles Alveoli Larynx | Heart Vessels blood | Spleen Thymus Lymph nodes tonsils |

2. How can the manner of death be determined?

- Forensic or clinical autopsies are performed to determine the manner of death.
- What are the 5 manners of death?

3. Why is the confidentiality of patient information important? 4. Who should keep patient information confidential? 5. Is there ever a time when patient confidentiality should be broken?

- Confidentiality: Set of rules that govern the limits of access to information, or places restrictions on certain types of information, except under specific circumstances.
- HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) – 1996
- Everyone who has access to health care is required to follow this law
- Identify all instances when HIPAA confidentiality can legally be violated: