



**Australian Government**

**Assessment Requirements for  
SIFEMWK015 Perform arterial embalming  
of autopsied cases**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for SIFEMWK015 Perform arterial embalming of autopsied cases

## Modification History

Not applicable.

## Performance Evidence

Evidence of the ability to:

- identify treatment requirements through a pre-embalming case analysis
- perform arterial treatments on autopsied cases using correct techniques and following work health and safety/occupational health and safety and infection control practices
- prepare mortuary area and select and use the required instruments and equipment
- clean, disinfect and sterilise the mortuary area, instruments and equipment and complete a case analysis report at conclusion of the treatment.

Evidence of performance of performing arterial treatment of autopsied cases on ten or more occasions is required to demonstrate consistency of performance and ability to respond to different situations.

## Knowledge Evidence

Demonstrated knowledge of:

- requirements for preparing the mortuary facility
- mortuary equipment, instruments and materials and associated uses
- process for body examination using non-invasive observation techniques, including:
  - checking for no pulse
  - looking for fixed and dilated pupils
- circulatory and lymphatic systems in terms of their importance to embalming
- arterial sites used for injecting embalming fluid
- physical and chemical changes and their possible impact on the embalming process
- effects of embalming on various causes of death, medical treatments and procedures
- concept and types of autopsies, and embalming implications for different types of autopsy procedures, including:
  - order for preparation
  - fluid strength
  - use of dyes
  - pressure and rates of flow
  - drainage
  - techniques for dealing with:

- cranial autopsies
- thoracic autopsies
- abdominal autopsies
- infant or child autopsies
- homicide autopsies
- preparation of autopsied bodies
- range of invasive and non-invasive medical paraphernalia, not removed at autopsy
- anatomical references for locating arteries to be injected
- alternative treatments for areas not reached by arterial fluid that may include hypodermic injection, internal packs, preservative gels and external gels
- venous sites used for draining venous fluids
- various suture techniques that may be used
- funeral services industry parameters and protocols for dealing with the deceased, including social, cultural and religious considerations
- federal, state or territory, and local government legislation and regulations in relevant to work health and safety/occupational health and safety, infection control and handling human remains
- environmental impacts regarding embalming procedures and minimal impact practices to reduce these
- environmentally sound disposal methods for all types of waste and in particular for hazardous substances
- workplace policies and procedures in relation to performing arterial embalming.

## Assessment Conditions

Skills must be demonstrated in a mortuary workplace:

- using suitable equipment and resources, including:
  - deceased bodies of autopsied cases requiring arterial embalming
  - mortuary instruments and equipment including personal protective equipment, chemicals and cleansing and disinfecting products
- under industry operating conditions where there is:
  - integration of tasks with possible interruptions to work typical of the job role
  - speed and timing requirements that reflect commercial operating conditions

As well as satisfying the NVR/AQTF mandatory competency requirements, assessors must also hold formal qualifications as an embalmer.

## Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c2c3131e-4418-4aa3-8ff1-a855c95f7fd6>