



Australian Government

SIFEMWK015 Perform arterial embalming of autopsied cases

Release: 1

SIFEMWK015 Perform arterial embalming of autopsied cases

Modification History

Not applicable.

Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to identify and perform the most appropriate arterial embalming procedures and techniques on autopsied cases based on body condition, including babies and infants up to 2 years of age. It applies to embalming staff responsible for carrying out arterial embalming on autopsied cases as part of the embalming process. It involves working autonomously with a high level of responsibility and according to and according to work health and safety, relevant legislation and workplace policies and procedures.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Competency Field

Mortuary Work and Embalming

Unit Sector

Embalming

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

1. Prepare to perform arterial embalming.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

- 1.1 Prepare and use personal protective equipment.
- 1.2 Prepare mortuary area and appropriate mortuary instruments and equipment.
- 1.3 Identify type of autopsy performed and evaluate embalming implications.
- 1.4 Remove invasive and non invasive medical paraphernalia as required.
- 1.5 Remove all autopsy sutures using appropriate techniques.
- 1.6 Remove viscera bag and clean, disinfect and dry viscera.

2. Perform arterial embalming procedures.
 - 2.1 Locate vessels to be used for arterial injection and drainage using appropriate techniques.
 - 2.2 Mix and prepare arterial embalming chemicals according to pre-embalming case analysis.
 - 2.3 Determine injection pressure and rate of flow according to pre-embalming case analysis.
 - 2.4 Inject identified vessels.
 - 2.5 Maintain effectiveness of distribution and diffusion of arterial injection by massage of the limbs, hands, feet, neck and face.
 - 2.6 Maintain suitable drainage into cavity.
 - 2.7 Identify and raise secondary injection sites as required.
 - 2.8 Apply alternative treatments for areas not reached by arterial fluid using appropriate methods.
 - 2.9 Return viscera to body cavity using appropriate techniques.
 - 2.10 Apply appropriate suturing techniques to re-suture all autopsy incisions.
 - 2.11 Re-cleanse and disinfect the body.
 - 2.12 Identify and manage hazards, complications and problems.
3. Complete post-embalming case analysis and clean instruments, equipment and mortuary area.
 - 3.1 Perform case analysis to evaluate success of the procedure and determine implications for further embalming procedures.
 - 3.2 Complete case analysis report that includes reference to any complications that may have arisen and corrective actions taken.
 - 3.3 Clean, disinfect or sterilise instruments and equipment.
 - 3.4 Dispose of waste as appropriate.
 - 3.5 Store instruments and equipment and report faults.
 - 3.6 Clean and disinfect mortuary area.

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance.

Foundation skills essential to performance in this unit, but not explicit in the performance criteria are listed below:

- Reading skills to interpret work health and safety and infection control legislation.
- Numeracy skills to calculate ratio for disinfecting instruments and equipment.

Unit Mapping Information

No equivalent unit.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

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

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.

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