

Autopsy Rotation - Objectives

Medical Knowledge

A. Objectives:

- i. Demonstrate familiarity with laws regarding permission for autopsy (including determination of next of kin) and the classification of autopsies requiring medicolegal status
- ii. Demonstrate knowledge of the most common styles of evisceration, and ability to determine style which is most appropriate in a given situation
- iii. Develop and understanding of basic pathologic processes, with emphasis on cause/manner/mechanism of disease; and natural disease processes (non-neoplastic)
- iv. Understand infectious disease precautions
- v. List common stains used for microscopic sections and their indications
- vi. Correlation of autopsy findings (gross and microscopic) with clinical course
- vii. Develop an understanding of basic pathologic processes in stillbirth and neonatal mortality, including placental disorders and malformation complexes

B. Plan

- i. The knowledge base is obtained through:
 1. Informal teaching by attending pathologists during the autopsy and during organ review after the autopsy
 2. Conferences:
 - a. Autopsy pathophysiology (twice per week)
 - b. Brain cutting conference (once per week)
 - c. CMC autopsy review conference (once per month)
 - d. CMC cardiology and ICU conferences (each once per month)
 3. Basic reading requirements (prior to B.i.2.a):
 - a. Robbins chapters on hemodynamics, cardiovascular system, brain, liver, lung, and kidney

C. Supervision/Assessment

- i. Informally: during questions asked during B.i.1 and 2
- ii. Formally: Examination at completion of rotation