

GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

PROCEDURE FOR POST MORTEM EXAMINATIONS

CORONERS POST MORTEM'S

The Doctor reports the death to the Coroner on all reportable deaths.

The Doctor will write on the Formal Notice that the 'death has been referred to the Coroner'

The Coroner may be the only person who can certify the cause of death.

RELATIVES REQUESTS FOR POST MORTEM EXAMINATIONS

Relatives/friends requesting Post Mortem Examinations or expressing any concerns over the cause of death should be told to forward their request/concerns to the Coroners Office who will advise them. It is not appropriate to forward these requests to Hospital Mortuaries.

MEDICAL OFFICERS REQUESTS FOR POST MORTEM EXAMINATION

If the death was known to be caused by a natural illness but the Doctor wishes to know more about the cause of death, they can request a Medical Examination of the body.

The Doctor must explain the reason for requesting this examination and obtain the written consent of the next of kin - Post Mortem Declaration Forms are available from the Patient Affairs Officer for this purpose.

The Doctor should contact the Pathology Department at R.N.H. Haslar and make necessary arrangements with the Pathologists. (There will be a charge levied for this service and for the cost of transportation of body. A Budget Manager should therefore be made aware and approve expenditure).

These examinations should not delay funeral arrangements.

Arrangements for the transportation of the body to Haslar should be made with the contracted Undertaker.