



Consent for Post mortem

Form B:

For a Stillborn Baby (where the Birth must by Law be registered)

(where an infant is born without signs of life at a gestation of 20 weeks or more; or, where the gestation is unknown, weighing 400g or more)

A senior doctor involved in your care is required to talk with you about whether it might be helpful if your baby is examined by the pathologist after delivery. (A pathologist is a doctor trained to investigate what might have caused your baby's death). After the doctor has explained what is involved in post mortem, you should be given the opportunity to read the accompanying booklet. You and your family should then be given time to read this consent form carefully and make the decision that is best for you.

When you have made your decision, please complete the form below.

1. Identification of the person(s) giving/withholding consent to post mortem

I/we _____ & _____
 Of _____
 _____ (address/es)

Being the _____ & _____ (relationship/s)
 Of the deceased, _____ (name of the baby, if given)

have received the accompanying *Post Mortem Family Information Booklet* and have talked with Doctor, & I/we understand the nature of a post mortem and the options of type of post mortem available.

I/We have had the opportunity to ask questions, and am/are satisfied with the explanations given with respect to the specified questions below.

This information & other verbal information has been given to me /us

- In English
- In my/our language, which is
- Via the interpreter(name)
- And by Dr.(name)

2. The purpose of the recommended examination is to try to establish

- Cause of Death
- Future risks in subsequent pregnancies
- Effects of treatment
- Accuracy of diagnosis
- To aid future medical knowledge for the purposes of helping our family & other families in a similar situation

I understand that Dr. has recommended:

- a full post mortem
- limited post mortem, specifically related to the
 -
 -
 -
- an external examination only
- no examination

A. Full Post Mortem

An explanation of the procedure for a full post mortem can be found on page 17 of the *Post Mortem Family Information Booklet*.

A. With respect to the proposed post mortem examination on
(name, if given)

I/We do wish a full post mortem to be performed

Signed(Next Of Kin)(Print)

And(Next Of Kin)(Print)

Date .../.../....

Witnessed(Medical Officer)(Print)

Witness statement: I have explained the nature and extent of the post mortem examination and believe that the person/s giving consent has/have understood the explanation.

Signed(Print)

With respect to the retention and burial/cremation of any organs:

(Please refer to the *Post Mortem Family Information Booklet* for a detailed explanation of the options)

- 1) I/We do/do not (strike out, as appropriate) require that all organs be restored to the body prior to release for burial.
- 2) If the organs are not restored to the body I/we choose to dispose of the organs in the following way:
Please choose between A, B or C: (circle)
 - A.) The Hospital will make the arrangements for the respectful, lawful & dignified disposal of the organs
 - B.) I/we will arrange for the disposal of the organs at completion of examination for post mortem purposes
 - C.) The hospital will retain the organs for its collection for teaching and ethically approved research purposes

I/We understand that no matter what choice we make about organs, tissue samples must, by law, be kept by the hospital's pathology department for 23 years. Tissue samples kept by the hospital may be used in the following ways:

- to further understand the cause of death and develop treatments
- for ethically approved research, education and laboratory quality procedures.

Signed(Next of Kin).....(Print)

And(Next of Kin).....(Print)

Date .../.../....

To be completed by Pathologist as the Hospital Designated Officer:

I am satisfied that the correct procedures have been fulfilled with regard to consent for post mortem and that it is reasonable to proceed with the *full post mortem* on as identified above.

Signed.....(Print)

Date.../.../...

B. Limited Post Mortem

An explanation of the procedure for a limited post mortem can be found on page 9 of the *Post Mortem Family Information Booklet*

A. With respect to the proposed post mortem examination on(name if given)

I /we agree to a post mortem limited to	
(specify organs/tissues)	
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed(Next of Kin).....(Print)

And(Next of Kin).....(Print)

Date .../.../....

Witnessed(Medical Officer).....(Print)

Witness statement: I have explained the nature & extent of the post mortem examination and believe that the person giving consent has understood the explanation.

Signed:(Print)

B. With respect to the retention and burial/cremation of any organs:

(Please refer to the *Post Mortem Family Information Booklet* for a detailed explanation of the options)

- 1) I/We do/do not (strike out, as appropriate) require that all organs be restored to the body prior to release for burial.
- 2) If the organs are not restored to the body I/we choose to dispose of the organs in the following way:
Please choose between A, B or C (circle)
 - A.) The Hospital will make the arrangements for the respectful, lawful & dignified disposal of the organs
 - B.) I/we will arrange for the disposal of the organs at completion of examination for post mortem purposes
 - C.) The hospital will retain the organs for its collection for teaching and ethically approved research purposes

I/We understand that no matter what choice we make about organs, tissue samples must, by law, be kept by the hospital's pathology department for 23 years. Tissue samples kept by the hospital may be used in the following ways:

- to further understand the cause of death and develop treatments
- for ethically approved research, education and laboratory quality procedures.

Signed(Next of Kin).....(Print)

And(Next of Kin).....(Print)

Date .../.../....

To be completed by Pathologist as the Hospital Designated Officer:

I am satisfied that the correct procedures have been fulfilled with regard to consent for post mortem and that it is reasonable to proceed with the *limited post mortem* on as identified above.

Signed.....(Print)

Date.../.../...

C. External examination only

An explanation of the procedure for an external examination can be found on page 9 of the *Post Mortem Family Information Booklet*.

With respect to the proposed post mortem examination on(name if given)

I/We agree only to external examination

Signed(Next of Kin).....(Print)

And(Next of Kin).....(Print)

Date .../.../...

Witnessed(Medical Officer).....(Print)

Witness statement: I have explained the nature and extent of the post mortem examination, and believe that the person giving consent has understood the explanation.

Signed:(Print)

To be completed by Pathologist as the Hospital Designated Officer:

I am satisfied that the correct procedures have been fulfilled with regard to consent for post mortem and that it is reasonable to proceed with the *external examination only* on as identified above.

Signed.....(Print)

Date.../.../...

D. No Post Mortem

With respect to the proposed post mortem examination on(name, if given)

I/We do not agree to any form of post mortem

Signed(Next of Kin).....(Print)

And(Next of Kin).....(Print)

Date .../.../....

Witnessed(Medical Officer).....(Print)

Witness statement: I have explained the nature & extent of the post mortem examination, and believe that the person withholding consent has understood the explanation.

Signed:(Print)

To be completed by Pathologist as the Hospital Designated Officer:
I am satisfied that the correct procedures have been fulfilled with regard to consent for post mortem and that *no post mortem* will proceed on as identified above.
Signed.....(Print)
Date.../.../....