 <p><b>BAY OF PLENTY</b> DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD HAUORA A TOI</p> <p><b>INFORMED CONSENT PROTOCOL</b></p>	<p><b>INFORMED CONSENT – POST MORTEM EXAMINATION (AUTOPSY)</b></p>	<p><b>Policy 1.1.1 Protocol 4</b></p>
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## INTRODUCTION

Post-mortem examinations may be required under the Coroner’s Act or may be requested by the clinician responsible for the care and treatment.

## CORONIAL AUTOPSY

Informed consent is not required for a Coronial Autopsy

## NON-CORONIAL AUTOPSY

1. It is necessary that requests for non-coronial post-mortem examination comes from the doctor(s) directly involved in the care of the patient and that they be made by direct discussion with the family. The Pathologist, as the person doing the procedure, must also contact the family and discuss the procedure prior to consent being given.
2. Only with the informed consent of the family may an autopsy proceed.
3. Telephone discussion and requests are acceptable if family is not present. Non-Coronial Consent for Autopsy Form must be completed.
4. It is recommended that the doctor directly involved in the case and / or the Pathologist who performs the autopsy discusses the findings with the family, both at the preliminary stage, and at the final report stage.


## REFERENCES

- Births Deaths & Marriages A Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (HP4720)
- Human Tissue Act 1964
- Non-Coronial Consent form

## ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.1.1 Informed Consent
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.1.1 protocol 1 Informed Consent – Standards
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.1.1 protocol 2 Informed Consent – Diminished Capacity and Competence to Consent
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.1.1 protocol 3 Informed Consent – Children
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.1.1 protocol 4 Informed Consent– Post Mortem Examination (Autopsy)
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.5.1 Interpreter Services
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 2.5.2 Health Records Management
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 6.1.4 Advanced Directives
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 6.3.9 Body Parts, Tissues and Substances
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 6.6.1 Death of a Patient
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 2.1.4 protocol 3 Incident Management – Open Disclosures
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 2.4.2 External Enquiries, Investigations, Inquests and Hearings
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 2.5.1 Health Information Privacy

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- [Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.2.5 Jehovah's Witness Patients – Providing Care](#)
- [Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.2.6 Refusal of Blood Products](#)
- [Bay of Plenty District Health Board Informed Consent form \(7752\) – viewable only. Order from Design & Print Centre](#)
- [Bay of Plenty District Health Board Form FM.T7.1 Treatment / Non Treatment of the Incompetent Adult Patient](#)
- [Bay of Plenty District Health Board Form FM.B2.1 Blood Products – Refusal - Understanding Regarding Refusal for Minors](#)
- [Bay of Plenty District Health Board Form FM.H1.1 Health Care Directive](#)

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