

## Autopsy Report FAQ's

How long does it take to get autopsy results (preliminary and final)?

Preliminary results are available to medical staff within 24 hours. The final autopsy report takes 8 weeks for completion. It will take another week for the results to be mailed.

How will I get a copy of the results?

A hospital autopsy report will be mailed to you if you signed the autopsy permit requesting the report and provided your address on the form.

A Medical Examiner's autopsy report must be requested through the Medical Examiner's office. Anyone can request an ME autopsy report. The phone number is 734-232-1127. When you call to request the report, you will be sent a Freedom of Information Act request form, and you must pay \$25 for the copy. These also take approximately 8 weeks for completion.

Is there a cost for the autopsy?

There is no cost to have an autopsy performed as long as the decedent is a patient or has ever been a patient at the University of Michigan Health System. (UM does not do private autopsies)

Who can I call for assistance obtaining the results?

The Department of Pathology (734-936-6700) or the Office of Decedent Affairs (734-232-4919) can be contacted to follow up on results.

Does signing the form and putting the address on it guarantee that the results will be sent?

It should guarantee this, but occasionally this is missed. Please call ODA if you do not receive the results in the stated time frame. Sometimes the report is not finished until someone calls in, or the autopsy request might have been filled out with missing information.

Can I speak with a physician about the results?

Yes, it is possible to request a conversation with the pathologist or another physician from the care team. Contact ODA for assistance with this.