NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Bureau of Child and Adolsecent Health

# INFANT AUTOPSY PROTOCOL

| Decedent's name | Age | Sex | Race/Ethnicity |
|---|---|---|---|
| Local accession number | Date of birth | Date/time of death | Date of autopsy |
| Pathologist | | County | |

## 1) FINAL CAUSE AND MANNER OF DEATH

## 2) STUDIES

| Routine Studies | Normal | Abnormal | Not Done | Findings |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Photographs | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Full-body X-Rays | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Toxicology | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Histopathology | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Neuropathology | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Metabolic Screening | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Blood/Tissues for future studies | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |

| Studies, as indicated | Normal | Abnormal | Not Done | Findings |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vitreous samples for glucose | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Microbiology/Virology | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Genetic Studies | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Electrolytes | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| HIV Testing | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |

**COMMENTS:**

## 3) CLINICAL SUMMARY:

Maternal Age: _____

Birth Weight (in grams): _____ Gestational Age: _____

Pregnancy Complications: _____

| Medical History | YES | NO | NOT AVAILABLE | COMMENTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Maternal Smoking | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Maternal Alcohol Use | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Maternal Drug Use | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Sibling with SIDS | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Other Relative with SIDS | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| Other Infant or Child Deaths | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |

Sleeping Position (put to sleep): ☐ Supine ☐ Prone ☐ Side ☐ Unknown

Co-Sleeping: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

Describe sleep habits and bedding, if known: _____

**COMMENTS:**

## 4) DEATH SCENE INVESTIGATION

☐ Indicated If indicated, state date: _____

☐ Not indicated If not indicated, state reason: _____

**COMMENTS:**

Pathologist

Date form completed

# Autopsy Format

- Final Diagnoses
- Final Cause and Manner of Death
- External Examination
- Postmortem Changes
- Scars / Other Distinguishing Characteristics
- Clothing
- Weights and Measures
- General Appearance / Development
- Injuries (External and Internal)
- Therapeutic Procedures
- Resuscitation Evidence
- External Integument
- Internal Examination
  - Head
  - Neck
  - Body Cavities
  - Cardiovascular System
  - Respiratory System
  - Liver, Gallbladder and Pancreas
  - Hemolymphatic System
  - Genitourinary System
  - Endocrine System
  - Digestive System
  - Musculoskeletal System
- Post-Mortem Studies
  - Full body X-rays
  - Histopathology
  - Toxicology
  - Metabolic Screen
  - Neuropathology
  - Cultures
  - Blood/Tissue retained for future studies
  - Other