

**ANATOMY TECHNICIAN****NATURE OF WORK**

This is technical work in the preservation, preparation, care and maintenance of a variety of materials for the Faculty of Medicine Anatomy Laboratories.

The employee of this class is responsible for receiving, preparing and storing human cadaver material, preserving specimens for museum display, assisting in the embalming of human cadavers, and preparing laboratories for teaching purposes. Work also includes ensuring that an appropriate inventory of equipment and material is available and maintaining a variety of records. This work is of a highly, sensitive and confidential nature requiring considerable discretion in maintaining liaison with hospitals, funeral directors and Faculty of Medicine staff regarding the acquisition and proper disposal of human remains. Supervision may be exercised over part-time non-technical employees. Work is performed with considerable independence under the general supervision of a technical supervisor. Work is reviewed through discussion, reports and observation of results obtained.

**ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK**

Receives human cadaver material from hospitals or other medical schools; prepares cadavers using appropriate cleaning methods; seals embalmed cadavers in plastic covers and places them in storage; checks temperature of storage cabinets and condition of cadavers; activates remedial measures as appropriate; prepares cadavers for burial or cremation, as determined by the Human Tissue Act.

Prepares specimens for museum display; performs minor prosections independently and major prosections under supervision; plastinates specified specimens using fixation, bleaching, dehydration, defatting, impregnation and curing techniques; reviews progress of specimen preparation at frequent intervals; ensures that each stage of the plastination process is conducted according to predetermined schedule.

Assists in the embalming of human cadavers; prepares necessary embalming fluids; assists in embalming techniques and monitors embalming progress; prepares and injects plastic solution to identify by colors the arterial and venous systems of the cadaver; performs further embalming, as required.

Ensures that necessary equipment, chemicals and supplies are provided for laboratory sessions; provides students with cadavers, anatomical models and prosection specimens; ensures that safe and proper methods of handling are utilized during session; provides protective clothing and monitors levels of gases within laboratory area.

Ensures that an appropriate inventory of equipment and material is available; reviews inventory and estimates needs; prepares purchase requisitions for material purchase; advises of additional need of human cadaver material; provides general care of equipment and performs minor

repairs and reconditioning as required; keeps account of all equipment, models and skeletal material loaned out and checks condition upon return.

Maintains a variety of records regarding the receipt and use of human cadaver material; records receipt and documents condition of cadaver; ensures that a copy of death certificate is obtained; records the use of cadavers and ensures that appropriate labelling of parts is performed; maintains records of burial or cremation; prepares and maintains purchasing and supplier records, as required.

Places materials in preservative fluids; encases specimens in plastic viewing boxes; maintains specimens by polishing plastic surfaces or replacing fluids.

Maintains liaison with hospitals, funeral directors and Faculty of Medicine staff regarding the acquisition and disposal of human remains; arranges for appropriate burial or cremation; provides information to officials as required.

Cleans instruments and equipment and keeps them in a hygienic condition.

Performs related work as required.

## **REQUIREMENTS OF WORK**

Experience in the handling and preparation of human cadaver material including familiarity with embalming and prosection practices; graduation from high school supplemented by completion of an approved course in laboratory techniques qualifying for registration; or any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the following knowledge, abilities and skills:

Considerable knowledge of equipment, materials and methods used in embalming and dissection.

Knowledge of the methods, materials and techniques of medical laboratory technology.

Knowledge of human anatomy.

Knowledge of the preservation, mounting and exhibition of gross anatomical specimens.

Knowledge of the Human Tissue Act.

Knowledge of the literature and of current developments in the field of plastination.

Knowledge of record keeping principles, methods and procedures.

Knowledge of the hazards and safety precautions involved in the work.

Ability to embalm cadavers.

Ability to prepare plastic solutions and inject cadavers.

Ability to handle human remains in an appropriate manner.

Ability to perform minor dissections.

Ability to prepare specimens for museum purposes.

Ability to perform assigned tasks according to prescribed procedures, and to make accurate observations of results.

Ability to operate and maintain a variety of laboratory equipment and apparatus.

Ability to maintain work records and to prepare related reports.

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with students, faculty and staff.

Skill in embalming and prosection.

Skill in the use of laboratory equipment.

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