



中国合格评定国家认可委员会

China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment

Address: 8 NanHuaShiDaJie, Dongcheng District, Beijing, 100062 P.R. China; Email: heping@cnas.org.cn

APLAC Proficiency Testing Program **T087 Cause and Manner of Death**

1. Objective

Identification of the cause and manner of death is one of the most important functions of forensic pathology. The cause of death is an injury or disease that causes a physiological derangement in the body and results in the death of an individual. The manner of death explains how the cause of death came about. Manners of death can generally be categorized as natural, homicide, suicide, accident, or undetermined. Because the cause and manner of death are primary issues for the forensic pathologists in the practice, the testing of the cause and manner of death is of great importance to provide the evidence for investigation of criminal scene and to prove or disprove an individual's guilty, and confirm or deny his confessions of how the death occurred. This PT program proposed here is an **interpretive test** and is designed to reflect actual casework in order to evaluate the performance of the participants (the accredited or unaccredited units from law enforcement agencies, such as police, health and medical administrative agencies, or from universities or colleges) in identification the cause and manner of death.

2. Organization and Responsibilities

China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment (CNAS) is the proposer and the Institute of Forensic Science (IFS), Ministry of Justice, PRC, is the PT provider. CNAS is responsible for proposing this program for approval by the APLAC Proficiency Testing Committee, inviting participants, circulating the final report to participants and acting as a coordinator between APLAC, ABs, participants and PT provider.

The IFS, which is accredited by CNAS as the PT provider to ISO/IEC 17043:2010, is responsible for preparing, packaging and dispatching the PT items, evaluating PT results, handling participants' queries and preparation of the final report.

3. Selection of Participants

APLAC members as well as other non-APLAC members are invited to participate in the programme. Participating accreditation bodies will be asked to nominate participants (the accredited or unaccredited units from law enforcement agencies, such as police, health and medical administrative agencies, or from universities or colleges) and indicate the accreditation status of the participants for the test.

4. Proficiency Testing Item

The form of this PT item is a DVD disc containing: (1) Guidance (a word file): Assignment Requirements, Case Introduction; (2) Autopsy Pictures (JPG files); (3) Microscopic Pictures (SVS files). (4) ImageScope software for running SVS files.

5. Report

Proficiency Testing Reports will list the results of all participants together with the reference answers of pathology diagnosis, death certificate determined by the consensus of PT provider.

6. Application Fee

Free of charge.

7. Schedule for Program

May-June., 2013	Advise APLAC members, EA, IAAC and other contacts for participating
By July 15, 2013	Accept nominated participants
By July 30, 2013	Dispatch samples to participants
By Sep. 30, 2013	Testing Deadline
By Nov. 30, 2013	Draft final report (not including Interim Report)

8. Contacts

CNAS:

PT Manager:

Mr. HE Ping

Address: 8 NanHuaShiDaJie, Dongcheng District, Beijing , 100062 PRC.

Tel: +86-10-6710 5290 Fax(Auto): +86-10-6710 5503

Email: heping@cnas.org.cn

IFS:

Mr. Shi Gefei

Address: No. 1347, West Guangfu Rd, Shanghai, 200063, PRC.

Tel/Fax(Auto): +86-21-5235 1397

Email: shigf@ssfjd.cn