



# 中国合格评定国家认可委员会

China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment

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## APLAC T087 Cause and Manner of Death

### INSTRUCTIONS TO PARTICIPANTS

Dear Participant,

Your organization has been nominated by your accreditation body to participate in proficiency testing program: cause and manner of death (APLAC T087), which is hold by the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC). In this program, each participant has a unique code number shown on the Result Sheet. Considering the rules of protection of participants' confidentiality, the unique code number will represent your body in the report associated with this program. The participant's information and PT results will be returned to related ABs and APLAC.

#### Instruction

##### 1. 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.

##### 2. Analysis

The participants are required to analysis the sample received against the routine method.

##### 3. Proficiency Testing Result

The answer sheets consisting three parts:

- A. Diagnosis;
- B. Death Certification;
- C. Opinion.

should be returned **ELECTRONICALLY** no later than **Sep. 30, 2013**.

##### 4. Enquiries

Please refer to the following contact for further enquiries concerning the program.

#### Contact

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## Case Information

### Case history

A 46-year-old male quarreled with other individuals while he was fishing at a river at night. His waist was struck by the stowers. Three hours' later, he was discovered lying supine on the river bank, clad in brown leather fishing trousers (shoes and clothes were an integral whole). The fishing clothes were thick.

### Autopsy findings

#### External examination:

The body was that of a well-developed, well-nourished male. The body weighed 70 Kg, was 158 cm in height, and was cold. Rigor was present to an equal degree in all extremities. Lividity was present and fixed on the posterior surface of the body, except in areas exposed to pressure. Scalp hair was black and 3 cm in length. The corneae were cloudy. The conjunctivae and sclerae were yellow. The external auditory canals, external nares, and oral cavity were free of foreign material and abnormal secretions. The lips were pale without evident injury. The teeth were natural and in good condition. Examination of the neck revealed no evidence of injury. The chest was unremarkable. The rib cage was tubby. The abdomen was bulging and fluctuating. Subcutaneous hemorrhage was noted in the inferior outside of the right nipple. The left upper quadrant of the abdomen showed skin petechia of dimensions 9 cm × 7 cm, as well as subcutaneous and muscular hemorrhage. There was an irregular moulage on spleen-area skin. Subcutaneous tissue showed petechia hemorrhage. Cyanosis of the nail bed was observed. Abnormal findings were not observed in the anus and external genitalia. No evidence of medical intervention was noted.

#### Internal examination

##### HEAD

The scalp was reflected. The calvarium was removed. The dura mater and falx cerebri were intact. There was no epidural hemorrhage or subdural hemorrhage. The leptomeninges were thin and delicate. The cerebral hemispheres were symmetrical. Structures at the base of the brain, including cranial nerves and blood vessels, were intact. Coronal sections through the cerebral hemispheres revealed no lesions. Transverse sections through the brain stem and cerebellum were unremarkable. The brain weighed 1447 g.

##### NECK

Examination of the soft tissues of the neck, including strap muscles, thyroid gland and large vessels, revealed no abnormalities. The hyoid bone and larynx were intact.

##### VENTRUM

The subcutaneous fat was 1.2-cm thick. The liver revealed no abnormalities. The left eighth, ninth, and tenth ribs were fractured from the anterior axillary line to the mid-axillary line. The tenth rib was fractured at the infrascapular line. The eleventh rib was fractured near the vertebral column. The intercostal muscles of the fractures bled. The thoracic cavity was unremarkable. The omentum majus was bound at the epigastric region. The hemocele and dull-red blood clot had a volume of 2800 mL.

##### CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM

Pericardial surfaces were smooth, glistening and unremarkable; the pericardial sac was free of significant

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fluid or adhesions. The coronary arteries arose normally, followed the usual distribution and were widely patent, without evidence of significant atherosclerosis or thrombosis. The chambers and valves exhibited the usual size–position relationship and were unremarkable. The myocardium was dark red-brown, firm and unremarkable; the atrial septa and ventricular septa were intact. The aorta and its major branches arose normally, followed the usual course and were widely patent, free of significant atherosclerosis and other abnormalities. The vena cava and its major tributaries returned to the heart in the usual distribution and were free of thrombi. The heart weighed 310 g. Left-ventricular free wall thickness was 1.3 cm, and right-ventricular free wall thickness was 0.3 cm. Bicuspid valve perimeter was 10.8 cm, and tricuspid valve perimeter was 12.5 cm. The aortic valve perimeter was 7.3 cm, and the pulmonary valve perimeter was 7.6 cm.

### **RESPIRATORY SYSTEM**

The upper airway was clear of debris and foreign material; mucosal surfaces were smooth, yellow-tan and unremarkable. Pleural surfaces were smooth, glistening and unremarkable bilaterally. The pulmonary parenchyma exuded slight-to-moderate amounts of bloody fluid; no focal lesions were noted. The pulmonary arteries were normally developed, patent and without thrombus or embolus. Transverse sections through the lung were gray-red. The right lung weighed 388 g; the left weighed 369 g.

### **LIVER and BILIARY SYSTEM**

The hepatic capsule was smooth, glistening and intact, covering dark red-brown, moderately congested parenchyma with no focal lesions. The gallbladder contained 1 mL of green-brown, mucoid bile; the mucosa was velvety and unremarkable. The extrahepatic biliary tree was patent, without evidence of calculi. The liver weighed 1228 g. Liver dimensions were (in cm)  $26 \times 14 \times 7$  (length  $\times$  width  $\times$  height).

### **ALIMENTARY TRACT**

The tongue exhibited no evidence of recent injury. The esophagus was lined by gray-white, smooth mucosa. The lumen contained 300-mL contents including undigested chyme and leaves. The small bowel and large bowel were unremarkable. The pancreas had a normal pink-tan lobulated appearance and the ducts were clear. The pancreas weighed 174 g. The dimensions of the pancreas were (in cm)  $21.5 \times 4.5 \times 2$  (length  $\times$  width  $\times$  height). The appendix was unremarkable.

### **GENITOURINARY SYSTEM**

Renal capsules were smooth and thin, semi-transparent and readily stripped from underlying smooth, red-brown cortical surfaces. Cortices were slightly congested and sharply delineated from the medullary pyramids, which were red-purple-to-tan and unremarkable. Both cortices were 0.5-cm thick. The calyces, pelves and ureters were unremarkable. The left kidney weighed 124 g, and the dimensions were (in cm)  $10.5 \times 5.5 \times 2.5$  (length  $\times$  width  $\times$  height). The right kidney weighed 128 g, and the dimensions were (in cm)  $10.5 \times 5.5 \times 3$  (length  $\times$  width  $\times$  height). The urinary bladder contained 15 mL of urine. The mucosa was gray-tan and smooth. The testes, prostate gland and seminal vesicles were unremarkable, as were the non-gravid uterus and appendages.

### **RETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM**

The spleen was swollen, gray-white, and the capsule was shrunken. There was a subcapsular hemorrhage of dimensions  $3 \text{ cm} \times 1.5 \text{ cm}$  (length  $\times$  width) and an irregular rupture combined with an agglutination blot. The red pulp and white pulp were smooth, glistening and unremarkable. There was petechia hemorrhage in the spleen parenchyma. The spleen weighed 311 g. The dimensions of the spleen were (in cm)  $13.5 \times 11 \times 3.5$  (length  $\times$  width  $\times$  height). The lymphoid follicles were unremarkable. The regional lymph nodes appeared

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normal.

**ENDOCRINE SYSTEM**

The pituitary, thyroid and adrenal glands were unremarkable.

**MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM**

Muscle development was normal. No bone or joint abnormalities were noted.

**Attachment 1: 18 photos of the autopsy.**

**Attachment 2: Microscopic photos (photographs can be opened using the attached software in the CD).**

**Attachment 3: Software for microscopic photographs.**



## Pathology Diagnosis Sheet

Participant Code: XXX—XXX

Name of the Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

| Pathology Diagnosis |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| Injury              | Disease |
|                     |         |



# Death Certification Form

Participant Code:XXX—XXX

## Death Certificate

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### Cause of Death

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**Part I** Diseases, injuries, or complications that directly caused the death

**Immediate Cause** **a.** \_\_\_\_\_

(Final disease or condition resulting in death) Due to (or as a consequence of)

**Intermediate Cause** **b.** \_\_\_\_\_

(diseases or conditions that contribute to death and are a result of the primary cause) Due to (or as a consequence of)

**c.** \_\_\_\_\_

Due to (or as a consequence of)

**Primary (underlying) Cause** **d.** \_\_\_\_\_

(disease or injury that initiated events resulting in death)

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**Part II.** Other significant conditions contributing to death but not resulting in the underlying cause in Part I

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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### Manner of Death

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Natural    Accident    Suicide    Homicide    Undetermined

**How Injury Occurred:** \_\_\_\_\_



## Opinion Sheet

**Participant Code: XXX—XXX**

This should briefly describe the cause of death in language as simple as possible, as well as stating the manner of death.

**Signature:**

**Date:**