

Appendix B

Sudden, Unexplained Infant Death Investigation SUIDI Top 25

Forensic pathologists nationally consider the following information critical to the determination of the cause and manner of death with regard to infant death investigation. This scene/case information should be collected and provided to the forensic pathologist BEFORE the conduction of the forensic autopsy.

1. Case information
2. Asphyxia.
3. Sharing sleep surfaces.
4. Change in sleep conditions.
5. Hyperthermia/hypothermia.
6. Environmental hazards (carbon monoxide, chemicals, etc.).
7. Unsafe sleeping condition.
8. Diet.
9. Recent hospitalizations.
10. Previous medical diagnosis.
11. History of acute life-threatening events.
12. History of medical care without diagnosis.
13. Recent fall or other injury.
14. History of religious, cultural, or ethnic remedies.
15. Cause of death due to natural causes other than SIDS.
16. Prior sibling deaths.
17. Previous encounters with police or social service agencies.
18. Request for tissue or organ donation.
19. Objection to autopsy.
20. Pre-terminal resuscitative treatment.
21. Death due to trauma (injury), poisoning, or intoxication.
22. Suspicious circumstances.
23. Other alerts for pathologist's attention.
24. Description of circumstances (what happened?).
25. Pathologist Information (name/agency/phone).