Creutzfeldt - Jakob Disease (CJD) Autopsy Information Sheet

In the event that a patient dies with a presumptive diagnosis of CJD, the Oregon Public Health Division’s Emerging Infections Program asks you take the following measures:

1. Make arrangements for the body to be transported to Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU)
   a. Arrivals should be directed to dock 9, behind the OHSU Basic Sciences Building
2. Please notify the neuropathologist on call.
   a. To do this, call the OHSU on-call operator at (503) 494-9125 and ask them to page or connect you with the neuropathologist on call.
3. Prepare the next-of-kin of the deceased to receive a phone call verifying consent for a brain-limited autopsy.
   a. The consent is generally obtained, after the patient death, by telephone through the office of the hospital administrator or through the staff of the OHSU Alzheimer’s Disease Center.
4. If you have any questions you may contact Stephen Ladd-Wilson at Oregon Public Health Division’s Emerging Infections Program, at (971) 673-1111.

Frequently Asked Questions…

- How long will the procedure take?
  - The autopsy is usually done the following regular working day.

- Will the family of the deceased absorb any cost for this procedure?
  - There is no charge for these autopsies. If preliminary testing indicates a diagnosis of CJD, tissues are forwarded to the National Prion Disease Pathology Surveillance Center at Case Western University. If preliminary and subsequent testing rules out CJD, subsequent steps are up to the family.
  - The cost for transportation of the body to OHSU can be covered by The National Prion Disease Pathology Surveillance Center (NPDPSC) by contacting the Autopsy Coordinator at (216) 368-3573.

For More Information, please visit: