

Sudden, Unexplained Infant Death Investigation SUIDI Investigative 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 (CO, 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. COD 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)