

Anatomy Department Inspection Report: University College Dublin, 15th March 2016

License holder: Professor James Jones

In attendance:

Mr D. C. Davies – Inspector of Anatomy

Mr Michael Ryan – Council Member

Ms Aoise O'Reilly – Medical Council

SECTION 1 – ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY

1. LICENSING, AUTHORITY, RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The lead individual holding the license for Anatomical Examination at UCD (Professor James Jones) has not changed since the 2014 inspection and the required annual returns have been made to the Medical Council. Staff changes since the last inspection have been notified to the Medical Council. In future staff changes will form part of the annual return to the Medical Council.

2. GOVERNANCE AND QUALITY SYSTEMS

We met with Professor Jones for the purposes of the inspection and subsequently with most of the academic staff of the Anatomy Department. There is a clear line of management within the Department and its members understand their responsibilities in relation to their role in Anatomical Examination. All staff are appropriately qualified and trained for their work, although there has been some loss of technical expertise with the retirement of the senior Anatomy Technician. UCD has appropriate annual performance management and development appraisals. There have been improvements in the record management system to ensure data protection and confidentiality (see below). Appropriate risk assessments of the practices and processes related to Anatomical Examination together with Standard Operating Procedures are in largely in place, but hard copy should be made available at point of use. The service level agreements between UCD and their undertakers, Corrigan & Sons and Glasnevin Trust, are expected to be in place in the near future. These agreements will be common to all of the Dublin medical schools.

There is interest in developing a Clinical Anatomy Centre at the old Mater Hospital, but as yet there are not any firm plans.

There is a Pathology / Anatomy Museum that students enter via the library. The external doors to the Museum are alarmed and monitored by CCTV. Each specimen

in the Museum is catalogued, given a QR code and tagged so that an alarm sounds if an attempt is made to remove it from the Museum.

SECTION 2 – RECOMMENDED PRACTICES

1. CONSENT

UCD uses the model consent form published as an appendix to the Code of Practice for Anatomical Examination. This consent form meets all of the recommendations within the Code of Practice. The information booklet for potential donors and their families gives appropriate information for the consent to be fully informed.

2. PREMISES, FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

The premises, facilities and equipment were inspected from the entrance point of a donor's remains, through the embalming and storage facility, to the dissecting room. The security of the undertaker's entrance is good, but the swipe card access to the dedicated body lift was not functional. The embalming and preparation facilities appear to be in good operative condition. Professor Jones reported some problems with the efficacy of the Genolyn embalming that was being trialed and the situation was being monitored carefully. The storage of cadavers and retained parts is appropriate and secure, cadaveric material is transferred from the embalming / storage facility to the Dissecting Room via 'through' storage fridges. Air quality in the embalming / preparation and Dissecting Rooms appeared good and 15 air changes per hour were reported. Since the 2014 inspection, the Dissecting Room doors have been fitted with alarms and are now monitored by CCTV, as is the entrance to the body lift.

Student entrance into the dissecting room is monitored by scanning their ID cards with a bar-code reader. The signage in and around the dissecting room is appropriate. The plastination suite is functional and secure.

3. RECORD KEEPING / TRACEABILITY

Record keeping and traceability have improved in line with recommendations made following the 2014 inspection. Hard copy donation records are now stored in a fire-proof cabinet. Electronic storage of donation records has begun and is reported to be 52% complete. There is now an inventory of retained parts that is hyper-linked to the cadaver and donation records. However, there is not at present a system for backing-up electronic data. An audit of traceability was successfully conducted by selecting some retained parts and tracing them back to the cadavers they were derived from and the consent form and other records.

4. SENSITIVE DISPOSAL

The donation information booklet provides full information about the options available for disposal of the donors' remains. Donor's remains are either buried or cremated at Glasnevin Cemetery or returned to their relatives.

5. LOAN / TRANSFER OF CADAVERIC MATERIAL

UCD does not currently loan or transfer any cadaveric material.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. C. Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and 'C'.

D. C Davies
Inspector of Anatomy

30/3/16