

**DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES
GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI
F-17, KARKARDOOMA, DELHI-32**

No. F.7(1844)/DHS/HQ/CC/2018

Dated

Circular

It has been noticed that few hospitals are not following prescribed standard for sending MLC samples for testing to forensic science laboratory.

In this regards it is directed that

- 1) Hospitals shall send crime exhibits for chemical examination in quantities which is as follows
 - a) Blood samples 5-10 ml
 - b) Plasma/serum 5 ml
 - c) Urine samples 50 ml
 - d) Gastric samples 25-50 ml
- 2) Viscera pertaining to acid poisoning cases (stomach, pieces of small intestine with contents, pieces of liver, spleen and kidney) should be preserved in rectified spirit.
- 3) Blood samples should be preserved in Sodium Fluoride (NaF) or Ethylene Diamine Tetra Acetic Acid (EDTA).
- 4) Hospitals will seek opinion of their forensic department, in case of any query.

This is for strict compliance.

Director General Health Services

No. F.7(1844)/DHS/HQ/CC/2018

249320-23, 249325-31, 249353,

Dated

5.4.18

Copy to:-

1. Spl secretary, Legal, H&FW
2. Medical Superintendent/Medical Director (All hospitals including Central Govt Hospitals, MCD, NDMC, Railways, Cantonment Board, other autonomous bodies, Pvt Hospitals) for compliance
3. Commissioner of police, Delhi for information
4. Director FSL, Rohini, Delhi for information
5. PS to DG.

Director General Health Services

**GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC MEDICINE
MAULANA AZAD MEDICAL COLLEGE
B.S.Z MARG NEW DELHI**

No.FM/ II/(Mort)10/2016/

Dated: 28 Sept., 2017

To

The Director General Health Services

Directorate of Health Services

Govt of NCT of Delhi

F-17, Karkardooma,

Delhi-110032

(Court Case cell)

Sub: Comments on the court case dated 05/09/2017 in the Bail Application No. 2470/2016.

Ref No. F.7(1791)/DHS/HQ/CC/2017/223196-3200 dt 12 /09/2017

Sir,

With reference to the above mentioned letter please find below our comments/expert opinion on the above matter:

1. Blood samples collected by the doctors during MLC or Post mortem examination should be taken on gauze cloth piece, thoroughly dried in shade under fan / blower at room temperature. The sample is packed in paper envelope or cloth parcel.
2. It is always ensured that the samples are preserved in dried state.
3. It is advised that FTA paper for DNA may be procured for preservation of sample of blood.
4. A booklet entitled "Guidelines for forwarding crime exhibits" has been published in Mar 2016 by Forensic Science Laboratory, GNCT of Delhi. It is advised that the same be circulated to all the hospitals under Govt of NCT ,Delhi.

(Dr. Anil Kumar Mittal)

Director Professor & Mortuary Offr Incharge

BIOLOGY/DNA DIVISION

This division examines crime exhibits relating to blood/blood stains, semen/semen stains, saliva stains and their grouping, hairs, bones, plant materials, flesh and in cases related to maternity/paternity disputes and forensic samples.

Types of Crime Exhibits

- Blood/ Blood stains
- Semen/ Semen stains
- Saliva stains
- Hair
- Bone
- Flesh

Collection of Biological & DNA evidence at the crime scene & Doctors during MLC (Medico-Legal Examination)

EVIDENCE	CONDITION	LOCATION	COLLECTION MODE	ACTION TAKEN BY
Biological samples		Hospital/ Scene	All the samples should be collected by wearing hand gloves with all the precautions being taken to avoid any contamination of the specimens. The samples should be labeled with information including type of specimen, (e.g. Blood/urine/vaginal swab/anal swab etc.), case number, name, age and sex of the patient, date of collection, site of collection, name of concerned police official and name with designation of the doctor.	By doctor or In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.

Blood Samples		Hospital	Blood samples collected by the doctors during MLC or Postmortem should be preferred on gauze cloth piece thoroughly dried in shade not in direct sunlight and packed in paper or cloth. The blood samples should never be packed in damp/wet conditions and never be packed in polythene/plastic Container/Air-tight Container.	Doctor
	Liquid	Scene/Hospital	Use syringe to collect into EDTA tubes or on gauze or cotton. Transfer onto cotton cloth & Air dry.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.
	Clot	Scene	Collect clot in test tube & add equal volume of saline. Transfer onto cotton cloth & air dry.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/Investigating officer.
	Wet	Clothing	Air dry at room temperature & package in a paper bag. Also avoid direct heat/ ironing to dry the stains as heat destroys the samples. Do not accelerate drying and take care to avoid contamination.	Doctor
	Wet	Object	Air dry at room temperature transfer the stain on gauze air dry and pack in the cotton cloth or envelope paper.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer /Investigating officer.

Dried Blood	Crust	Small Object	Scratch crust into paper packet. Collect control blank.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer /Investigating officer.
	Stains	Weapon of offence	Collect item directly. Should be packed separately in boxes with stained areas covered by paper.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.
	Stains	Large Object	Collect entire item, if it is smaller one. For the larger object transfer the stain on gauze soaked in saline and air dry.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.
	Stains	Upholstery Carpet Wallpaper Wood	Cut out stained area. Package separately. Collect control.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.
	Stains	Unmovable surface Concrete wall	Scrape into paper packet. Collect control. Transfer onto moistened cotton thread. Air dry thread.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.
Semen	Liquid	Victim	Collect sample with swabs and should be air dried and packed in paper envelopes. Smear preparation on slide is more suitable than swab for sperm examination. Reference samples of victim and accused must be taken.	Doctor

	Stains	Victim	Collect sample with swabs and should be air dried and packed in paper envelopes instead of Airtight Plastic container	Doctor
	Liquid	Scene	Transfer on to cotton cloth. Air dry.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.
	Wet	Clothing	Air dry at room temperature and package in a paper bag. Avoid direct heat /ironing to dry the stains as heat destroys the samples. Do not accelerate drying and take care to avoid contamination.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.
Saliva	Objects	Cigarette	Completely dry cigarette ends and pack separately in paper bag or envelope. Store in a cool, dry environment.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.
	Stains	Clothing	Air dry at room temperature & package in a paper bag. Also avoid direct heat/ ironing to dry the stains as heat destroys the samples. Do not accelerate drying and take care to avoid contamination.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.
	Objects	Cups or glasses	Should be sent after drying and wrapping it with paper.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/

				Investigating officer.
Hair	With tissue	Scene	Collect hair with tissue in container & Keep refrigerated.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.
	With blood	Scene	Air dry. Collect in a paper packet.	In-charge crime team in the presence of investigating officer/ Investigating officer.
		Person	Samples of hair complete with roots should be taken. Collect in a paper packet.	Doctor
Tissue/ Aborted Foetus		Hospital	Tissue samples and Foetus should be stored in normal saline. Formalin should never be used as preservative. Glass container should not be used. Blood sample of the mother should be sent along with Foetus	Doctor
Bones/ teeth		Hospital	Air Dried at room temperature. Seal the items in suitable cloth or paper.	Doctor

**OFFICE OF SPL. SECRETARY (H&FW)
GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
ROOM NO. B-405, 4TH LEVEL B WING,
DELHI SECRETARIAT, IP ESTATE, NEW DELHI-2.**

No. 25/08/misc. Conf. on/12220 2646

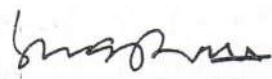
Dated: 17/5/13

Sub: Guidelines for collection of Biological/DNA samples for evidence.

In order to prevent possible putrefaction/spoiling of samples and further to bring uniformity and standardization in this regard, joint exercise was undertaken by the Health Department, Crime Branch (Delhi Police), Director (FSL) and the Department of Forensic Medicine (MAMC) to develop guidelines for collection and preservation of biological and DNA samples for further forensic examination in crime investigation. Upon deliberations and discussions, a consolidated guidelines have been framed which cover the parts pertaining to collection of biological evidence during post-mortem/MLC by the doctors and those pertaining to the collection of evidence by Investigating Officers at the scene of crime. The parts of this consolidated guidelines which exclusively pertain for use of the Investigating Officers for the evidence collection during crime investigation has been vetted by Delhi Police. (reference internal circular no.3341-3695/Record Branch/PHQ dated 25/4/2013 of Jt.CP (Crime)).

Accordingly, the consolidated guidelines are hereby forwarded to Directors/Medical Superintendents of all the respective Government hospitals, HODs (Forensic Medicine) of Medical Colleges and the Medical Officers working in Casualty (through their Medical Superintendents) for their guidance while collecting the biological/DNA samples meant for forensic examination.

These guidelines will be reviewed after three months.


(S.B. Shashank)
Spl. Secretary (H&FW)

Encl: Guidelines.

Copy for necessary action to:-

1. All Directors/Medical Superintendents, Govt. Hospitals
2. All HODs (Forensic Medicine), AIIMS/MAMC/LHMC/UCMS/VMMCH
3. All MSs to further send the copies to the Medical Officers in the Casualty
4. Director, FSL, Rohini, Delhi
5. Joint Commissioner of Police/Crime Branch, Delhi Police

Copy for information to:-

1. Pr. Secretary (Home), GNCTD
2. Commissioner of Police, Delhi, PHQ, ITO, Delhi
3. Secretary (Health), GNCTD
4. Secretary to MOH
5. S.O to Chief Secretary

circulate to all faculty
S. B. Shashank
29/5/13

**GUIDELINES FOR
COLLECTION
AND
PRESERVATION OF
BIOLOGICAL
AND
DNA EVIDENCE**

**COLLECTION OF BIOLOGICAL AND DNA EVIDENCE BY CRIME TEAM AT
THE CRIME SCENE AND BY DOCTOR DURING MLC/PM**

EVIDENCE	CONDITION	LOCATION	COLLECTION MODE	TO BE COLLECTED
Biological Samples		Hospital/Scene of Crime	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All samples should be collected wearing hand gloves and precautions should be taken to avoid any contamination of the specimens. 2. The samples should be labeled properly with the following information:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Type of Specimen (e.g. Blood/urine/vaginal swab /anal swab etc.) b) Case Number. c) Name. d) Age. e) Sex of the patient. f) Date of collection. g) Site of collection. h) Name of police official. i) Name with designation of the doctor. (Proforma for label at Annexure-'A') 	By doctor or in charge Crime Team in the presence of Investigating Officer (In-charge Crime Team will lift, pack and seal the samples from Crime Scene and hand them over to Investigating Officer)
Wet Blood Samples		Hospital	<p>Blood samples collected by the doctors during MLC or Postmortem should be taken on gauze cloth piece and preserved in the following manner:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sample should be dried on the gauze cloth piece before packing it. 2. The drying should be done in shade at room temperature under a fan. 3. The sample should not be exposed to direct sunlight for drying it faster. 4. Other sources of heat such as table lamps, heaters, pressing irons etc should not be used to dry it. 5. The sample should not be packed in a plastic bottle or air-tight container as that would lead to its putrefaction and contamination. 6. It should always be packaged in a paper envelope or cardboard box or cloth bag after drying it properly. 7. The sample should never be packed in wet condition. 	Doctor

Liquid	Scene of Crime	Use syringe to collect into EDTA tubes or on gauze or cotton. Transfer onto cotton cloth and dry as mentioned above.	In charge Crime Team in the presence of Investigating Officer.
Clot	Scene of Crime	Collect clot in test tube and add equal volume of saline water. Transfer onto cotton cloth and dry as above.	In charge Crime Team in the presence of Investigating Officer.
Wet	Clothing	Air dry the clothing as above at room temperature and pack in a paper bag. Do not apply direct heat and do not use a hot iron to dry the stains as heat destroys the samples. Do not accelerate drying. The drying should take place naturally at room temperature. Take care to avoid contamination.	Doctor
Wet	Object	Air dry as mentioned above at room temperature, transfer the stain on gauze, air dry and pack in the cotton cloth or paper envelope.	In charge Crime Team in the presence of Investigating Officer.
Dried Blood Sample	Crust	Scratch crust into paper envelope. Collect control sample from vicinity and pack in a separate envelope.	In charge Crime Team in the presence of Investigation Officer.
	Stain	Weapon of offence The blood stained weapon should be packed in the following manner: a) Collect weapon directly along-with the dried blood. b) The weapon should not be touched where the blood stains are present. c) The weapon should be packed separately in a card board box. d) The blood stained weapon should be placed and packed in such a manner that blood stained area does not touch/rub with the box. e) The weapon should not be loosely packed in the box. It may wipe out the stains.	In charge Crime Team in the presence of Investigation Officer.
	Stain	Object Collect the object itself, if it is small; package it taking precautions mentioned above for weapons. For a larger object, transfer the stain on gauze soaked in saline and air dry it.	In charge Crime Team in the presence of Investigation Officer.
	Stain	Upholstery Carpet Wallpaper Wood Cut out the blood stained area. Package it separately taking precautions mentioned above for weapons Collect control sample.	In charge Crime Team in the presence of Investigation Officer.
Stain	Immovable surface, Concrete wall Scrape into paper packet. Collect control. Transfer onto moistened cotton thread. Air dry thread.	In charge Crime Team in the presence of Investigation Officer.	

Liquid	Victim	Collect sample with swabs and should be air dried and packed in paper envelopes. Smear preparation on slide is more suitable than swab for sperm examination. Blood samples of victim and accused must be taken.	Doctor
Stains	Victim	Collect sample with swabs and should be air dried and packed in paper envelopes.	Doctor
Liquid	Object Scene	Transfer onto cotton cloth. Air dry.	In charge Crime Team in the presence of Investigation Officer.
Wet	Clothing	Air dry at room temperature and package in a paper bag. Do not apply direct-heat and do not use Hot Iron (Press) to dry the stains as heat destroys the samples. Do not accelerate drying which should take place naturally at room temperature and take care to avoid contamination.	In charge Crime Team in the presence of Investigation Officer.
Saliva	Objects	Cigarette	Completely dry cigarette ends and pack separately in paper bag or envelope. Store in a cool, dry environment
Saliva	Object	Cups or glasses	Should be sent after drying and wrapping it with paper taking precautions not to disturb the area where saliva is expected to be present.
Hair	With tissue	Scene of Crime	Collect hair with tissue in container and keep refrigerated.
	With Blood	Scene of Crime	Air dry. Collect in a paper packet.
		Person	Samples of hair complete with roots should be taken and collected in paper packet. Hair taken without its root cannot be analyzed for DNA comparison.
Tissue/ Aborted Foetus			Tissue samples and foetus should be stored in normal saline.
Teeth			Seal the items in suitable sterile plastic containers

ANNEXURE – 'A'

LABEL

- a) Type of Specimen
(e.g. Blood/urine/vaginal swab /anal swab etc.)
- b) Case Number:
- c) Name:
- d) Age: Sex:
- f) Date of collection:
- g) Site of collection:
- h) Name of police official:
- i) Name with designation of the Doctor –
.....