Medical Errors in Autopsied Cases

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Dear editor,

The publication on “Medical Errors in Autopsied Cases” is very interesting.1 Sah et al. noted that “The autopsy reporting of medical errors can be used to identify lacunae in hospital protocols, problem-prone clinical processes and suggest interventions that may reduce negligence.” In fact, the error in medical practice is not uncommon but is little mentioned. In the accredited medical center, the high rate of error can still be seen.2 Lesson learnt form the study on errors seen in autopsies can be very useful. Nevertheless, there are also many other considerations. First, how to have the medical personnel learnt and remembered the problem is a big challenge. At present, there is still neither positive nor negative re-enforcement regarding the error management. Without action, there quality improvement according to the plan-do-check-act concept3 cannot be expected. Nevertheless, the privacy on the report of errors in autopsies should be discussed. Since errors mean carelessness, the report might be evidence that further leads to legal sue to the hospital.

REFERENCES


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