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SECOND EDITION

# INTRODUCING THE CORONER'S INVESTIGATOR'S HANDBOOK

MRS ALI WARNER MSC

THOROUGH AND PROFESSIONAL DEATH SCENE INVESTIGATION –  
GUIDANCE FOR INVESTIGATORS

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# Coroner's Investigator's Handbook...

Edition 2 builds on the theme of death scene investigation and examines many areas in more depth, drawing on new legislation, new practices and looks ahead to the future.

There is an examination of how the new proposed role of Medical Examiner may affect the role of Coroner's Investigators.

There is additional pathological information for certain deaths (eg asphyxia, carbon monoxide, hanging, electrocution).

Some chapters have been updated and contain additional information about other organisations such as the Marine and Coastguard Agency, Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

On the deaths in custody section there is information about Article 2 related investigations and reference to ACPO documents on various restraints; the updated prison assessment of care in custody system; more detail about expectations in psychiatric care.

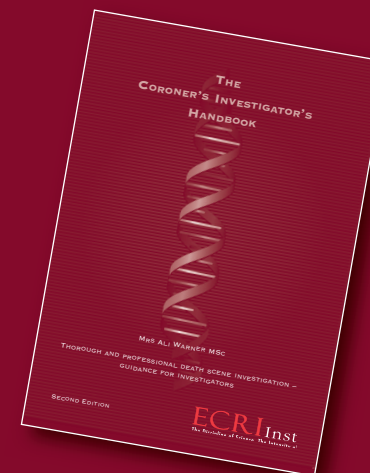
The chapter on identification issues has been enhanced with in-depth information about the various specialists who can contribute, such as odontologists, anthropologists, palynologists and there is reference to the new National Policing Improvement Agency Missing Persons Bureau.

There are three new chapters on healthcare with reference to organisations such as the Care Quality Commission; National Institute of Clinical Excellence; Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency; ECRI Institute; Patient Advisory and Liaison Service.

There is reference to National Patient Safety Agency National Reporting and Learning Systems and 'never events'; Health and Social Care Act 2008; Care Home Regulations 2001; National Minimum Standards for care homes. Information about deaths in care homes, nursing homes and hospices is considered in much more detail. There is reference to consultation documents from the Department of Health and the Ministry of Justice such as Statutory Duty for Doctors and other Public Service Personnel to Report Deaths to the Coroner (July 2007); Improving the Process of Death Certification in England and Wales: Overview of Programme (November 2008).

Throughout there is reference to new legislation as it impacts on Coroner's Investigators such as the Children Act 2004; Coroners and Justice Bill; Road Safety Act 2006; Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007

There is an updated generic checklist; a new action plan; 5 new checklists for specific deaths; updated appendices



Author: Mrs Ali Warner MSc

Much of this book is based upon the practical experience of investigating deaths on behalf of a Coroner with exacting and high standards, in an environment where police resources are freed up to carry out their many other duties by the Coroner's Office carrying out a full investigative function where appropriate.

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