



# Medical Examiner and its role in forensics

1. Who is medical examiner ?
2. What is the role of Medical Examiner ?
3. What is relation between Medical Examiner and forensic Science ?
4. Who can be Medical Examiner ?



## Who is medical examiner?

A medical examiner is an official trained in pathology that investigates deaths that occur under unusual or suspicious circumstances, to perform post-mortem examinations, and in some jurisdictions to initiate inquests.

In layman word - A forensic medical examiner is a medical doctor who performs autopsies on the bodies of deceased individuals to determine the cause and manner of death.



A **medical examiner** can perform autopsies and is appointed, not elected. The autopsy can also provide information on the circumstances of the death of the deceased individual.

A **medical examiner** (M.E.) is a **medical** doctor who is responsible for examining bodies postmortem, to determine the cause of death and manner of death, and the circumstances surrounding the death of an individual.

A medical examiner examines the remains inside and out. **They** can remove internal organs for testing and collect samples of tissue or bodily fluids such as blood.

### **Three levels of autopsy?**

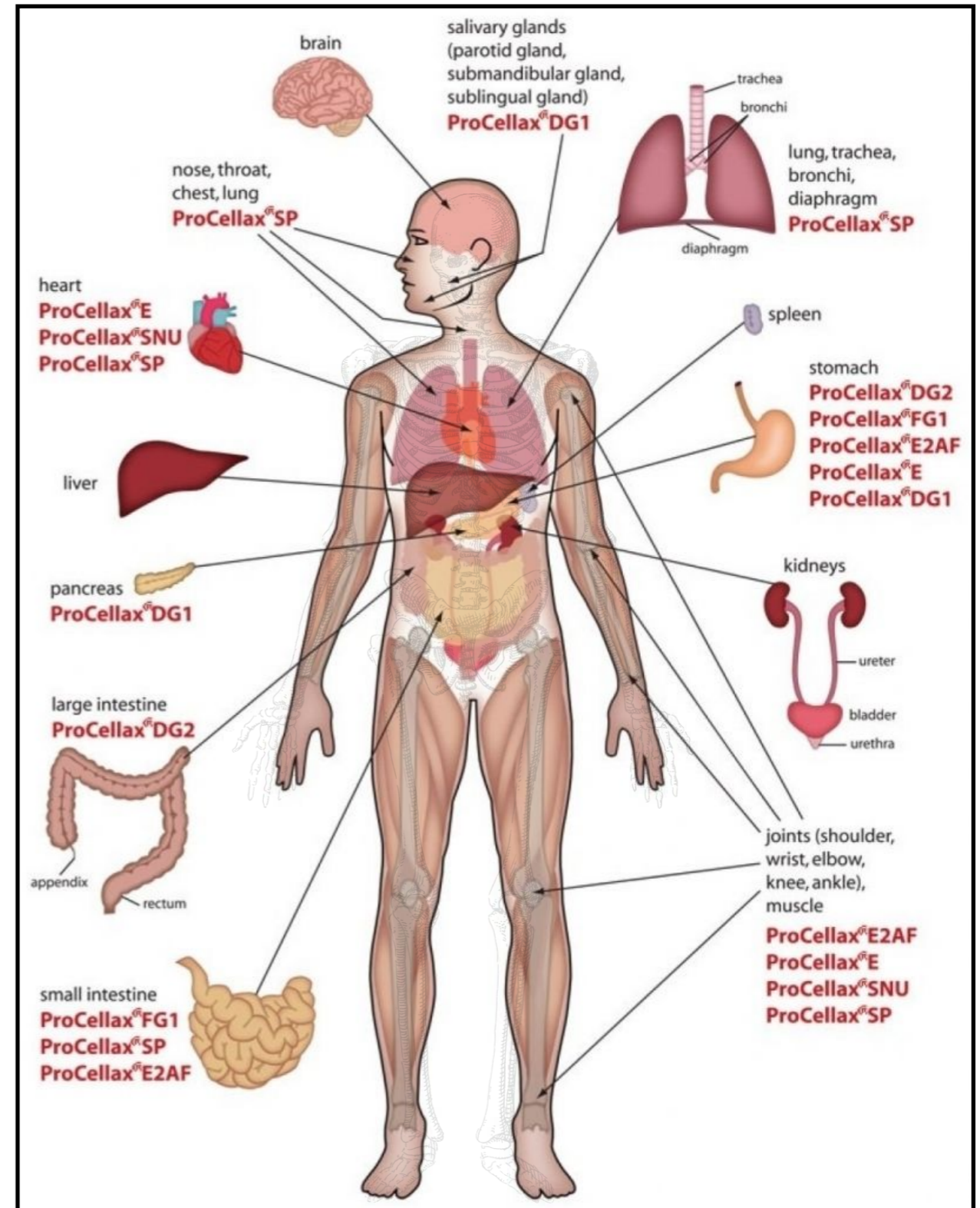
- Complete: All body cavities are examined.
- Limited: Which may exclude the head.
- Selective: where specific **organs** only are examined.

An autopsy (post-mortem examination, obduction, necropsy, or autopsia cadaverum) is a surgical procedure that consists of a thorough examination of a corpse by dissection to determine the cause, mode, and manner of death or to evaluate any disease or injury that may be present for research or educational purposes. (The term "necropsy" is generally reserved for non-human animals). Autopsies are usually performed by a specialized medical doctor called a pathologist. In most cases, a medical examiner or coroner can determine cause of death and only a small portion

## Medical Examiner Role in Forensic -

A medical examiner's duties vary by location, but typically include:

1. Investigating human organs like the stomach, liver, brain,
2. Determining cause of death,
3. Examining the condition of the body,
4. Studying tissue, organs, cells, and bodily fluids
5. Issuing death certificates,
6. Maintaining death records,
7. Responding to deaths in mass disasters,
8. Working closely with law enforcement
9. Identifying unknown dead, or performing other functions depending on local law.





## **Working closely with law enforcement**

Although much of a medical examiner's job is performed in the laboratory, these professionals may also visit the crime scene and testify to their findings in court. Medical examiners also study trends and compile reports regarding their investigations.

## **Medical Examiner Requirements:**

- Bachelor's degree in biology, physical sciences, or a related field. Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree.
- 4 to 7 years' internship and residency training, specializing in forensic and anatomical pathology.
- Certification by The American Board of Pathology in forensic and anatomical pathology.
- Valid and active medical license in the state you wish to work. Experience using lab testing equipment.
- Working knowledge of applicable laws and statutes governing forensic services.
- Exceptional analytical and research skills. Strong oral and written communication skills.

Thank you

**Presented by:**

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