



# Reporting Protocol for the Examination of Gross Autopsy of Central Nervous System of Adult Decedents

**Version:** 1.0.0.0

**Protocol Posting Date:** December 2023

The use of this protocol is recommended for clinical care purposes but is not required for accreditation purposes.

The aim of this protocol is to improve the completeness, clarity, and portability of autopsy reporting while being mindful of the wide range of practice settings in which the data in the report is generated and disseminated.

The Autopsy Adult CNS template can be used when reporting CNS results separately from the Adult Autopsy report.

**This protocol may be used for the following procedures AND tumor types:**

Procedure	Description
Adult Autopsy CNS	Neuropathology findings of the brain and spinal cord

**The following should NOT be reported using this protocol:**

Procedure
Perinatal Autopsies
Pediatric Autopsies

## Authors

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With guidance from the CAP Cancer and CAP Pathology Electronic Reporting Committees.

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## Accreditation Requirements

The use of this case summary is recommended for clinical care purposes but is not required for accreditation purposes. The core and conditional data elements are routinely reported. Non-core data elements are indicated with a plus sign (+) to allow for reporting information that may be of clinical value.

## Summary of Changes

v 1.0.0.0

- New protocol

## **AUTOPSY: Adult CNS Reporting Template**

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**Protocol Posting Date: December 2023**

**Select a single response unless otherwise indicated.**

### **CASE SUMMARY: (AUTOPSY: Adult CNS)**

#### **CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM**

*The Autopsy Adult CNS template can be used when reporting CNS results separately from the Adult Autopsy report. Reference the CAP Organ and Weight Tables (<https://documents.cap.org/documents/cap-organ-weight-tables.pdf>) for recommended organ weight standards.*

#### **Brain (required only if applicable)**

Not applicable (not examined)

Examined

Fresh

Post-formalin fixation

**Brain Weight in Grams (g): \_\_\_\_\_ g**

#### **Cerebral Hemispheres (select all that apply)**

*# Unremarkable includes symmetric right and left hemispheres with no gross abnormalities.*

Unremarkable#

Asymmetric (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Atrophic

Edematous

Defect(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Lesion(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Infarct(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Cerebellum (select all that apply)**

*# Unremarkable includes symmetry and no gross abnormalities of the anterior, posterior, and flocculonodular lobes.*

Unremarkable#

Asymmetric (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Atrophic

Edematous

Defect(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Lesion(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Infarct(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Brainstem (select all that apply)**

*# Unremarkable includes symmetry of the brainstem with no gross abnormality of the midbrain, pons, or medulla.*

Unremarkable#

Defect(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Lesion(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Infarct(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**+Pituitary Gland**

- Not examined
- # Unremarkable includes normal size and appearance consistent with age and sex.*
- Unremarkable#
- Enlarged (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Ventricles (select all that apply)**

- # Unremarkable includes normal anatomic contour of lateral, third, and fourth ventricles with no abnormalities.*
- Unremarkable#
- Dilated (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_
- Obstructed (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Hemorrhage (select all that apply)**

- Not identified
- Epidural (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_
- Subdural (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_
- Subarachnoid (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_
- Intraparenchymal (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle of Willis (select all that apply)**

- # Unremarkable includes normal configuration of major cerebral and communicating arteries with no gross abnormality.*
- Unremarkable#
- Atherosclerosis (specify degree and arteries, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_
- Malformation / variant pattern (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_
- ## Specify aneurysm type as berry (saccular) or fusiform, and intact or ruptured.*
- Aneurysm (specify, if possible)###: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Herniation**

- Not identified
- Subfalcine (midline shift): \_\_\_\_\_
- Transtentorial (uncal): \_\_\_\_\_
- Tonsillar (coning): \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Meninges (select all that apply)**

- # Unremarkable includes tan, smooth meninges with no gross abnormalities. Reflection of the dura mater should reveal no body abnormalities.*
- Unremarkable#
- Defect(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_
- Lesion(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Spinal Cord (required only if applicable) (select all that apply)**

- Not applicable (not examined)
- # Unremarkable includes no gross abnormalities of the cervical, thoracic, and lumbar cord.*
- Unremarkable#

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Approved

Autopsy.Adult\_CNS\_1.0.0.0.REL\_CAPCP

\_\_\_ Defect(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Lesion(s) (specify, if possible): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**+Central Nervous System Comment:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS**

**Comment(s):** \_\_\_\_\_