



Short communication

Positional Statement: Radiology Disaster Victim Identification Reporting Forms

Positional statement of the members of the Disaster Victim Identification working group of the *International Society of Forensic Radiology and Imaging*;

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Since the first application of radiology to Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) during the investigation of the SS Noronic ship disaster in 1949 [1] radiology has played an increasingly important role in DVI, particularly with the increasing utilisation of post mortem computed tomography (PMCT). There are now instances in DVI investigations where PMCT has been used as the substantial or even sole form of pathological body examination, i.e. replacing invasive (autopsy) examination.

It is critical that the relevant radiological findings are conveyed accurately to those investigating the deaths irrespective of the radiological modality used. The communication of the findings will usually take the form of two separate reports. The first should be the completion of the newly introduced INTERPOL DVI Radiology Examination Record Form, either in paper or electronic format, to record the findings of the initial radiology examination. This report will inform the *DVI investigation*. In order to inform the *pathological examination*, a second detailed radiological report of the remains can be produced, either at the same time or later, (this will be incident and practitioner dependent) using an appropriate whole-body or partial remains reporting form or similar.

1. Process pathway

It is recommended that prior to the reporting of any DVI radiology a process pathway should be established which the reporting team must abide by. Working to such a pathway should ensure that all critical stages of the process are completed by all reporting team members. It also provides a documented continuity of evidence pathway which can be used in court proceedings if required. To ensure consistency the reporting team should use the same image reporting platform for reporting of imaging findings.

2. The INTERPOL DVI Radiology Examination Record Form

The INTERPOL *Radiology Examination Record* form is a multi-modality Post Mortem (Pink) Appendix 800's form, number 850, designed to record the initial radiological examination findings to guide the DVI teams as to the possible presence of DVI or forensically significant findings.

Fig. 1 illustrates the form [2]. The form should be completed by, or under the supervision of, a suitably qualified medical or paramedical

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Post Mortem (pink) INTERPOL DVI Form - Unidentified Human Remains Appendix **800's**

Place of disaster: PM No:

Nature of disaster:

Date of disaster: Day [][] Month [][] Year [][][][] Male [] Female [] Other [] Unknown []

a = Data not available b = Attachment c = Further info on page Sup. Info. (700's)

850 APPENDIX RADIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION RECORD (for optional use) a b c

852	Modality	X-ray 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	CT 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Fluoroscopy 3 <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify) 4 <input type="checkbox"/> _____				
854	Technical issues	No 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (specify): 2 <input type="checkbox"/> _____						
856	Type of remains	Human 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Non-human 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Commingled 3 <input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure 4 <input type="checkbox"/>				
858	State of remains	Intact 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Incomplete 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Individual body parts (specify): 3 <input type="checkbox"/> _____					
860	Disease processes	No 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (specify below) 2 <input type="checkbox"/>						
862	Dental work	No 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (specify below) 2 <input type="checkbox"/>						
864	Implants	No 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (specify below) 2 <input type="checkbox"/>						
866	Forensically significant findings	No 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (specify below) 2 <input type="checkbox"/>						
868	Hazards	No 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (specify below) 2 <input type="checkbox"/>						
870	Supplementary details	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____							
872	Accompanying images							No 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (specify) 2 <input type="checkbox"/>
Registered by		Duty Title	Signature / Date						
		Name							
		Address							
		Phone / Email							

[(EN) Version 2018]

Fig. 1. The 2018 INTERPOL Radiology Examination Record.

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