

**Department of Anatomy and Neuroscience Inspection Report:  
University College Cork  
14<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

**License holder:**

Professor John Cryan

**In Attendance:**

Prof D. Ceri Davies – Inspector of Anatomy

Ms. Aoise O'Reilly – Anatomy Lead, Medical Council

Ms. Chloe Ryder – Anatomy Liaison, Medical Council

Mrs. Katharine Bulbulia – Lay Observer & Medical Council Member

**SECTION 1 – ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY**

**1. LICENSING, AUTHORITY, RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

The lead individual holding the license for Anatomical Examination at University College Cork (UCC) Professor John Cryan, has not changed since the 2014 inspection. There have not been any notifiable staff changes since the last inspection and the required annual returns have been made to the Medical Council.

**2. GOVERNANCE AND QUALITY SYSTEMS**

We met with Professor Cryan, Senior Technical Officer Michael Cronin, Senior Executive Assistant Miriam Dorgan, who is responsible for bequeathals and a number of other members of staff. The Department is an experienced unit and its members understand their responsibilities in relation to their role in Anatomical Examination. All staff are appropriately qualified and trained for their work and UCC has appropriate annual performance management and development appraisals.

A systematic record management system is in place that ensures data protection and confidentiality.

Comprehensive risk assessments of the practices and processes related to Anatomical Examination are in place, with the exception of service level agreements between UCC and their undertakers, Fords, and between UCC and the Island Crematorium. These agreements are expected to be in place in the near future. It is noted that donors remains are frequently delivered and sometimes removed by undertakers employed by the family of the deceased, with whom UCC do not have a contract.

## SECTION 2 – RECOMMENDED PRACTICES

### 1. CONSENT

To date, UCC has been using a consent form that differs slightly from the model consent form published as an appendix to the Code of Practice for Anatomical Examination. However, their consent form has met all of the recommendations within the Code of Practice and UCC will adopt the model consent form in 2017.

The comprehensive information booklet for potential donors and their families gives appropriate information for the donors' consent to be fully informed.

### 2. PREMISES, FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

#### Facility for Learning Anatomy, Morphology and Embryology (FLAME)

The premises, facilities and equipment were inspected from the entrance point of a donor's remains, through the embalming and storage facility, to the dissecting room where teaching of speech therapists was in progress.

Donor's remains have to be brought through the main atrium of the building, before entering a lockable service lift to the embalming / storage area. Therefore, undertaker's deliveries only occur after normal working hours and the donors are brought into the building in a 'concealed coffin carrier'. The embalming / storage area contains two embalming stations, 10 body freezer and 55 body fridge units and a band saw. There is also a 2 bay prosection laboratory and a plastination suite that is not yet operational.

Entrances to the FLAME laboratory are alarmed and monitored by CCTV and accessed using a swipe card. The signage in and around the dissecting room is appropriate, the facilities in the dissecting room are excellent and all equipment was reported to be working well. Students must swipe a card reader to enter the dissecting room for classes. Security of the dissecting room is enhanced, because the demonstrator's / technician's office overlooks it.

#### Application of Science to Simulation based Education, Research and Training (ASSERT) Centre

This facility was opened on March 16<sup>th</sup> 2016, in the Watson Building, Brookfield Campus and is a postgraduate surgical anatomy training centre, run in partnership with the Stryker Corporation. The Centre runs approximately 35 courses per year and comprises six work-stations, a freezer / fridge unit and adjacent preparation room. The freezer / fridge Unit is alarmed and failure is notified to the Senior Technical officer by text. The facility uses fresh frozen material sourced from Science Care in the USA. These imports are reported to the Medical Council in the Annual Return, and after use, the remains are cremated. The imports are delivered by couriers, contracted by Science Care and there is a non-disclosure agreement in place. The cadaveric material enters the Centre via a lockable delivery lift. Entry into the Centre is by card reader and the door is alarmed. Although there is CCTV in the lobby area, the entrance door is

not monitored by CCTV, which would be recommended. The signage is appropriate. Anatomy staff are present at all times when courses are running and are responsible compliance with the Code of Practice for Anatomical Examination and Health and Safety. The ambient temperature in the Centre is maintained at 17° C and there are 17 air changes per hour. After each course, the facility is treated with a hydrogen peroxide 'fogger'. The credentials of the delegates are known in advance and a record is kept of attendees. Currently, records of imported fresh-frozen cadaveric material are held in the FLAME laboratory and it is recommended that records of all material *in situ* in the ASSERT Centre are also held there.

### 3. RECORD KEEPING / TRACEABILITY

Following previous recommendations, hard copy donation records are now stored in a lockable fire-proof cabinet. Donor details are also entered into an Excel spreadsheet, but this will be replaced by a custom-made electronic database on a secure server. Scanned copies of consent forms and other donation records are not entered into the current database. It is recommended that when donors are received for anatomical examination, these documents are entered into the database.

Records exist for entire cadavers, prosections, potted specimens, and historical specimens. Comprehensive osteology records remain to be completed. An audit of traceability was successfully conducting by selecting two items in the dissecting room during the teaching taking place at the time of inspection and tracing them back to the consent form and other records.

### 4. SENSITIVE DISPOSAL

The comprehensive donation information booklet provides full information about the options available for disposal of the donors' remains. Remains are interred in the University Burial Ground in St Mary's Cemetery, cremated at the Island Crematorium or returned to relatives.

### 5. LOAN / TRANSFER OF CADAVERIC MATERIAL

UCC does not currently loan or transfer any cadaveric material.

