

Statement of Policy

Retention of Cadaveric Material

It is the policy of the Anatomy Laboratory at Charles Sturt University, Albury Campus that no cadaveric material is retained by this facility beyond the return date stipulated by the donor institution, usually four years.

This policy is based on an implicit moral obligation to the donor and the relatives of the donor. Such a stance is underscored by the furore which is raging currently regarding unauthorised retention of autopsy material by some hospitals and other institutions. Consequently, it must be expected that questions will be asked ultimately of all institutions, which deal with human material both, by public authorities and donors' relatives.

In some institutions, it has been common practice to retain human anatomical material for prolonged preservation, research and study. While this practice has been condoned both implicitly and explicitly, in the past, by some public health authorities, it is not one shared by this facility.

Janice Hinderaker
Licence Holder &
Lecturer in Anatomy