

Diagnostic Investigations

do you know your U&Es from your LFT's?

a one day study course for coroners' officers and staff

Thursday 24th May 2012

The study day 'Diagnostic Investigations' was designed by the Coroners' Officers and Staff Association, specifically for coroners' officers and staff working in the coroner service.

Course Description

The course is designed to signpost the key tests and their uses for the diagnosis of common diseases and disorders of the main body systems (cardiovascular, respiratory, nervous, gastrointestinal and urinary) to provide coroners' officers and staff from non-medical backgrounds with knowledge and understanding concerning diagnostic testing, to enable discussion of the principle aspects of causes of death with medical professionals.

Course Aim

To enhance professional working practices with key knowledge of common diagnostic testing to enable staff to identify and evaluate medical information relevant to coroners inquiries

Learning Outcomes

In the context of the common diseases and disorders resulting in deaths referred to HM coroner, on completion of this study day you will be able to:

- describe the value and relevance of, and the process of, diagnosis
- describe common diagnostic tests and their application
- recognise the significance of abnormal results
- identify sources of relevant information

Indicative Content

An overview of common diagnostic testing:

- the process of making a diagnosis
- clinical laboratory tests, diagnostic procedures and imaging
- uses and applications and significance of abnormal results
- where to find the results
- where to find further information

Feedback following the Course

"The COASA 'Diagnostic Investigations' day was very useful, especially the handout, without which some of the detail might have been lost to me due to the complexity of the content and abbreviations used. Having said that the explanation of terms and visual display of some test results and the diagnoses discussed was extremely helpful in my work as a coroners' officer when discussing these matters with medical professionals. To have an experienced doctor, who is also an Assistant Deputy Coroner, along with a Nurse and a Trainer who has experience as a Coroner's Officer to deliver the course provided learning for me of the highest quality, certainly something I would recommend to others

