

UR number _____
 Surname _____
 Given name/s _____
 Date of birth _____ Gender _____
 (Affix baby's label)

UR number _____
 Surname _____
 Given name/s _____
 Date of birth _____ Gender _____
 (Affix mother's label)

Baby's label

Mother's label

VPAS

Victorian Perinatal Autopsy Service

Checklist for arranging a perinatal post-mortem

This checklist is for registered births. If you are making a referral from RWH, the Mercy Hospital for Women, or Monash Health (Clayton), please call your hospital lab and request a copy of their checklist for internal referrals.

Action	Send to VPAS	Send with baby	Initial when done
Consult your hospital bereavement procedure.			
Complete the <i>Medical Certificate of Cause of Perinatal Death</i> (death certificate).	✓	✓	
Discuss the option of perinatal post-mortem with the family. Provide a copy of VPAS <i>Deciding if your baby should have a post-mortem examination</i> (VPAS/01) information sheet. Contact VPAS if you would like assistance or support T 1800 841 024 .			
Complete VPAS <i>Consent for perinatal post-mortem examination</i> (VPAS/02) form with the parents/guardians of the baby. If they decide against a post-mortem, please complete VPAS Consent form (VPAS/02) and select 'I do not consent to any type of post mortem'.	✓	✓	
Complete VPAS <i>Family's instructions</i> (VPAS/04) form and ensure all belongings travelling with the baby are clearly listed.	✓	✓	
Provide the family with VPAS <i>Your baby's post-mortem examination</i> (VPAS/03) information sheet.			
Call VPAS to begin the referral T 1800 841 024 .			
Complete VPAS <i>Clinical information before placental and post-mortem examination</i> (VPAS/06) form.	✓		
Send all relevant antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal clinical info. to VPAS perinatal autopsy coordinators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Victorian Maternity Record or antenatal record, notes and relevant referrals. Birth summary. Discharge summary (if available). Relevant medical, midwifery and/or nursing notes. All relevant pathology results for mother and baby. All relevant imaging results/reports. 	✓		
Secure patient identification labels on the baby, as per VPAS <i>Patient identification for perinatal post-mortem examination</i> flowchart. The identification labels need to match the details on the consent form.			
Place the placenta in a watertight container (not in formalin). The placenta needs to be labelled with the maternal patient identifiers.		✓	
The placental pathology request form needs to specify clinical scenario and request: placental histopathology placental MC&S, and molecular karyotype/microarray.	✓	✓	
For transfer, please ensure that the baby is wrapped (consider using a bluey for infection control, or if the baby has delicate skin).			
Once these items are complete, and the family knows when they will be ready for their baby to be transferred to the VPAS pathology laboratory, please call VPAS coordinators (T 1800 841 024) so they can book the transport.			

All forms, information sheets, and guides are available on the VPAS website: thewomens.org.au/VPAS