

Syllabus – Diploma in Management of the Dead (DipMoD)

The DipMoD examination course will cover the areas shown in the timetable for the Management of the Dead which is specified below. Attendees will be expected to have a theoretical/legal or practical knowledge of the basic facts and principles around the management of the dead within England. Topics to be covered include:

Legal aspects of managing the deceased

- Identification of deceased
- Certification and death registration
- Reasons for referring to the coroner
- Investigation and legal process in various categories of death
- Legal requirements for burial or cremation
- Brief overview on relevant legislation

Procedures for the recognition of life extinct and diagnosis of death

- Authorised personnel responsible in pronouncing and certifying death
- Diagnosis of brain death and protocols and issues arising
- Pronouncing death within healthcare facilities (hospital, care home etc)

Organ donation and transplantation

- The regulations involving organ donation in the United Kingdom both in the deceased and brain dead donors

The environment

- Healthcare Environments (Hospitals, Care Homes, Hospices)
 - The procedures involving how the body is managed after life is pronounced extinct in a clinic/hospital
 - Measures taken to ensure that the deceased is treated in an appropriate way with dignity and taking into consideration any religious or cultural practices
- Indoor (non-custodial) Death
 - These may vary from domestic, workplace or various public premises
 - Procedure on discovering or notification of death and what steps need to be taken depending on the category of death, including securing and examining the scene
- Custodial Death
 - The deceased may be in custody but within a hospital or within a prison, police station, mental health institution
 - Description of the protocols involved and the necessary investigation to be carried out to include the role of the police, IPCC, Coroner
- Outdoors (land and water)
 - Protocols in dealing with an outdoor environment and examination of the body in situ prior to removal

- Other topics
 - General principles of management of a scene
 - Management of multiple deaths including mass disasters, genocide, armed conflicts
 - Mortuary practices, post-mortems and issues arising
 - Management of the next of kin
 - Preparing for lawful disposal and funeral practices
 - Dealing with the media
 - Presenting evidence in Court