

Hospital Planning for Proper Mortuary Management

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KEYWORDS	ABSTRACT
Hospital Planning Mortuary Management Death Deceased	In this paper, the study highlights mortuary management which is currently an understudied field. However, it is also conducive for hospitals to have proper planning in order for mortuaries to function at an optimum level. To achieve this several levels of layout and structure need to be implemented.

1. INTRODUCTION

After-life care is not for everyone. In fact, when a person unfortunately passes away, there are several procedures that needs to be followed and done in order to preserve the bodies. In this field, only a selected few take up the task and responsibilities in handling the bodies and remains of the deceased. The field in question here refers to the Mortuary Management in healthcare settings. The security and safety of human remains awaiting identification or removal for autopsy, burial, or other post-death procedures is provided by a mortuary, a hospital service location.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Hospital Planning

Compared to other commercial buildings, hospital buildings are incredibly complex, making them difficult to plan, design, build, and run. The architecture of the hospital has a direct impact on how satisfied patients, employees, and their families are. The hospital's efficacy is significantly impacted by careful planning, design, and construction (Garg. A, 2023).

2.2 Mortuary Management

The location, structure, operations, and auxiliary services that mortuaries offer to the public are the first steps in mortuary management (Jaffar et al., 2021). Basically, any mortuary should ideally be located on hospital property so that the body can be moved there right away in the event of a hospital death. This functional unit needs specific infrastructure, including the equipment and the built-up structure.

2.3 Death Statistics in Malaysia in Year 2024

The 10 principal causes of death in Malaysia recently are by Pneumonia (15.2%), Ischaemic heart diseases (15.1%), Cerebrovascular diseases (7.2%), Transport accidents (3.5%), Malignant neoplasm of colon, rectum and anus (1.7%), Diabetes mellitus (1.7%), Hypertensive diseases (1.5%) and Malignant neoplasm of breast (1.4%).

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3. MORTUARY STRUCTURE AND LAYOUT

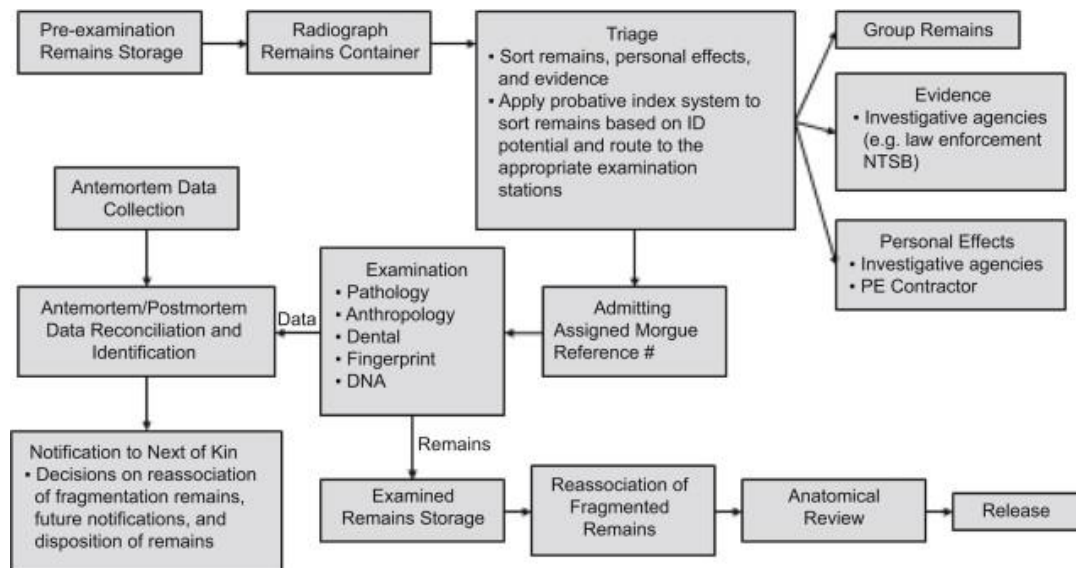


Figure 1. Mortuary Structure.

The structure usually revolves around the pre-examination at the remains storage, then remains container and moving on to the triage for several functions like sorting. It is followed by admission and then to examination whereby several departments of tests are conducted like fingerprints and DNA. Data is then sent to

the postmortem department for further analysis and the family is then notified. Apart from that, examined remains are sent to another storage area and further review is conducted, only then the deceased is released.

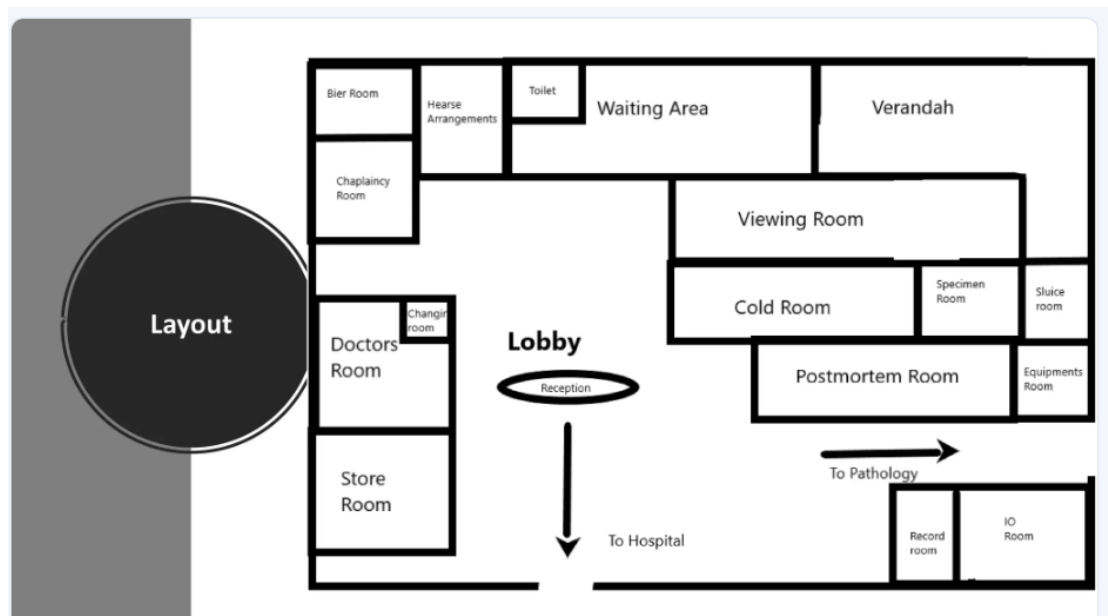


Figure 2. Mortuary Layout.

A normal and conducive mortuary layout consists of several key rooms that integrate with one another. There in lies vital rooms such as Doctors Room, Viewing Room, Cold Room, Postmortem Room and even the Waiting Area for the next of kin.

4. CONCLUSION

Not every hospital has the same mortuary structure. Mortuaries in teaching hospitals have comparatively superior facilities. Hospitals in the area have adequate mortuaries to do routine post-mortem examinations.

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