

Procedures and Protocols for Cadaver Use at Imperial Valley College

Statement:

Imperial Valley College (IVC) is committed to providing its students the best possible education. The study of human anatomy is a vital component of the education of pre-healthcare professionals and can be enhanced through the detailed study of the human body. Imperial Valley College believes that the use of donated human bodies provides its pre-professional health care students a unique opportunity to better understand the structure and structural relationships of the human body. The use of donated bodies enables students to appreciate the size and 3-dimensionality of a body that they would otherwise not be exposed to without the study of cadavers. Similarly, use of donated bodies by our students provides them the additional benefit of evaluating biological variation and a chance of viewing various pathologies. Imperial Valley College also believes the benefits of using cadavers go beyond an understanding of anatomy by providing students “a first patient,” thereby exposing them to an element of humanness that they would otherwise not receive if IVC did not use donated bodies. Imperial Valley College believes that through the use of donated bodies our students will be better prepared to pursue successful careers in the health care industry.

Imperial Valley College recognizes the value and importance of donated bodies and is committed to ensuring that donated bodies will always be treated with the utmost care and respect. Survivors may gain some comfort in the knowledge that IVC fully understands the indispensable and honorable contribution that body donors have made to the education of our students. In as much, all donors will be maintained in a secure restricted setting. Only students enrolled in specific anatomy classes will be allowed to study a body. Additionally, students will only be allowed to examine a donated body in the presence of a full-time anatomy instructor. Moreover, each year a single inter-faith memorial service will be conducted on IVC campus to acknowledge and honor those who have provided the “ultimate gift” of discovery and knowledge to our students.

Protocol and Procedures

Acquisition of Cadavers:

All cadavers will be obtained through the University of California, San Diego Body Donation Program. The primary focus of the Body Donation Program is to obtain the human cadaver for educational and scientific study. California is a signatory on the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act (1968) which established a uniform set of guidelines for the bequest of human bodies. For more information about the UCSD Body Donor program visit: <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/me/donation/bodydonor.html> WWW.

Security of Cadavers:

Any fluids recovered from the cadaver will be stored in a container separate from all other wastes. The container, either a five or fifty five gallon plastic with a re-sealable lid, will be labeled "Pathogenic Waste, from cadaver" and handled by IVC's designated chemical disposal company.

Student Preparation for Cadaver Study:

It is natural for some students to feel awkward, discomfort, or anxiety prior, to and/or during anatomical study of a cadaver. Instructors should discuss the possible range of emotions with students prior to their first exposure. Additionally, instructors should let students know that, if they desire, they have the opportunity to discuss their emotions confidentially, prior to the student's first exposure. All students also have access to counseling through Counseling Services at the IVC Student Health Center to process

15. Only textbooks and lab manuals are allowed in the room. All other items (backpacks and other personal items) will be left in the classroom.
16. The room's ventilation system must be on at all times while students are in the room. Do not prop the door open. If you have respiratory difficulties, inform your instructor and exit the room immediately.
17. Assume all reagents and tissues are a potential hazard.
18. No visitors of any sort are allowed.
19. Any violations of the rules will result in expulsion of the offender from the Cadaver Room
20. Report any violations of these rules to your anatomy and/or physiology instructor, or the Science Department Chair.

Failure to follow the rules and procedures hereby set forth may result in IVC losing its privileges to obtain bodies from the UC San Diego Body Donation Program.

The following Student Contract must be signed by all students prior to their exposure to the cadaver.

Imperial Valley College Student Cadaver Rules and Procedures Agreement

1. **The anatomical donors are to be treated with the utmost respect at all times.** An appropriate decorum will be maintained at