

## DMORT REGION III Terminology List

The following list is compiled from contributions by dental, mortuary, anthropology, and pathology professionals from the DMORT Region III Team. The list is to be used by scribes and data entry personnel during a DMORT deployment. The list may be – and should be – modified by those who use it. Changes should be forwarded to Marilyn ([mlondon@hers.com](mailto:mlondon@hers.com)) for inclusion in future versions. Shorter versions of the list, by discipline, may be made available to scribes during a deployment, so that, for instance, a scribe at the Anthropology Station in the morgue will only have to refer to Anthropology terms. The list will also be available on diskette to data entry personnel.

**abdomen** – the inferior part of the trunk, containing the intestines

**abrasion** – antemortem injuries resulting from friction of the skin against a firm object resulting in the removal of the epidermis

**accessory chemical** – group of chemicals used in addition to vascular and cavity embalming fluids; includes but is not limited to hardening compounds, preservative powders, sealing agents, mold preventatives, and pack application agents

**actual pressure** – that pressure which is indicated by the injector gauge needle when the arterial tube is open and the arterial solution is flowing into the body

**adipocere** (grave wax) – soft whitish crumbly or greasy material that forms upon the postmortem hydrolysis and hydrogenation of body fats

**aerobic** – in the presence of free oxygen

**aerosolization** – to disperse as an aerosol; minute particles of blood and water become atomized and suspended in air when water under pressure meets the blood drainage or when flushing an uncovered flush sink

**agglutination** – the increase of viscosity of blood brought about by the clumping of particulate formed elements in the blood vessels (intravascular)

**air tray** – a transfer container consisting of a wooden tray with a cardboard covering for the casket

**ala** – a wing-like structure

**algor mortis** – post-mortem cooling of the body to the surrounding temperature

**alignment** – arranged in a row or line

**alopecia** – loss of hair

**alternate drainage** – method of injection-drainage in which embalming solution is injected and then injection is stopped while drainage is open

**alveolar crest** – the highest portion of alveolar bone

**alveolar eminence** – outline of the root on the facial portion of the bone

**alveolar process** – that portion of the maxilla or mandible that surrounds the root of the teeth

**alveolus** – a small cell, especially an air cell; also, a socket in the bone in which the tooth sits

**amalgam**- a metal alloy restorative material

**anaerobic** – in the absence of free oxygen

**anasarca** – severe generalized edema

**anatomical crown** – the portion of the tooth that is covered with enamel

**anatomical guide** – a descriptive reference for locating arteries and veins by means of anatomical structures which are known

**aneurysm hook** – an embalming instrument that is used for blunt dissection and in raising vessels

**aneurysm needle** – an embalming instrument that is used for blunt dissection and in raising vessels, which has an eye in the hook portion of the instrument for placing ligatures around the vessels

**angular spring forceps** – a multipurpose instrument used in the embalming process

**ankyloglossia** – tongue-tied, a short lingual frenum attachment

**ankylosis** – fusion of skeletal elements

**anomaly** – a deviation from the normal

**antagonist** – a structure that opposes or counteracts another structure: in the oral cavity, the teeth that meet those in the opposite jaw

**ante-** (prefix) – before in time or space, e.g., *antemortem* - before death

**anterior** – situated in front of

**anticoagulant fluid** – ingredient of embalming fluids that retards the natural postmortem tendency of blood to become more viscous or prevents adverse reactions between blood and other embalming chemicals

**apex** – a pointed extremity of a structure

**apical foramen** – an aperture in the apex of the root

**apposition** – laying down of, or addition of, one substance to another

**arch** – a curvature; both the maxillary and mandibular teeth are positioned in an arch formation

**arterial (vascular) fluid** – the concentrated, preservative, embalming chemical that will be diluted with water to form the arterial solution for injection into the arterial system during vascular embalming. The purpose is for inactivating saprophytic bacteria and rendering the body tissues less susceptible to decomposition.

**arterial solution** – the mixture of arterial fluid and water which is used for the arterial injection and may include supplemental fluids

**arterial tube** – a tube used to inject embalming fluid into the body vascular system

**arthritis** – inflammation of the joint, often causing changes in the bones

**articular surface** – area where two bones come together at a joint

**aspiration** – withdrawal of gas, fluids, and semi-fluids from body cavities and hollow viscera by means of suction with an aspirator and a trocar

**atlas** – first cervical vertebra

**atrophy** – a wasting of tissues, organs or the entire body; caused by death and resorption of cells, diminished cellular proliferation, pressure, ischemia, malnutrition, decreased function or hormonal changes, e.g., *autolysis* - self-dissolution; the post-mortem enzymatic degradation of cells

**attached gingival** – the gingiva that is bound to underlying bone

**attrition** – wearing away by normal use (chewing, biting, etc.)

**autolysis** – self-destruction of cells; decomposition of all tissues by enzymes of their own formation without microbial assistance

**autopsy** – a postmortem examination of the organs and tissues of the body to determine cause of death or pathological condition; a necropsy

**axilla** – the armpit

**axis** – second cervical vertebra

**bifurcation** – having two branches; forking into two parts

**bilateral** – affecting both sides

**biological death** – irreversible somatic death

**bitewings** – dental x-rays that show both upper and lower teeth, mainly used for caries detection

**bleaching agent** – a chemical which lightens a skin discoloration

**blood-borne pathogens** – pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans; these pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)

**blunt dissection** – the separation and pushing aside of the superficial fascia leading to blood vessels and then the deep fascia surrounding blood vessels, utilizing manual techniques or round ended instruments which separate rather than cut the protective tissue

**bridge suture** – individual stitch knotted at the tissue edge; may be applied prior to embalming to align tissues

**buccal** – relating to the cheek

**buffers** – a chemical which affects the stabilization of the acid-base (pH) balance within embalming solutions and in the embalmed tissue

**bulb syringe** – self-contained, soft rubber and manual pump designed to create pressure to deliver fluid as it passes through one-way valves located within the bulb

**calcaneus** – heel bone

**calcification** – process of hardening by the deposit of calcium salts

**calculus** – hard deposit on the teeth

**calvarium** – the dome-like superior portion of the cranium; that portion removed during cranial autopsy

**calvarium clamp** – a device used as a means of fastening the calvarium after a cranial autopsy

**canal** – a large opening through a bone

**canine** (also known as the cuspid, eyetooth) – a conical tooth located next to the incisors

**caries** – decay on the tooth structure

**carpal** – wrist bone (there are eight on each side)

**casket** – a rigid container which is designed for the encasement of human remains and which is usually constructed of wood, metal, or like material and ornamented and lined with fabric

**cavity embalming** – direct treatment, other than vascular injection, of the contents of the body cavities and the lumina of the hollow viscera; usually accomplished by aspiration and injection

**cavity fluid** – embalming chemicals which are injected into the cavities of the body following the aspiration in cavity embalming. Cavity fluid can also be used as the chemical in hypodermic and surface embalming.

**cell** – living structural and functional building block of the body

**cementoenamel junction** – where the cementum and enamel meet

**cementum** – the material which covers the root of the tooth

**center of fluid distribution** – ascending and/or arch of the aorta

**center of venous drainage** – right atrium of the heart

**centric occlusion** – the relationship of the occlusal surfaces of one arch to those in the opposing arch at physical rest position

**centric relation** – the relationship of the maxillary arch to the mandibular arch when the condyle is in its most retruded position

**cerebellum** – the small part of the brain that controls complex body movements and balance

**cerebrum** – the largest part of the brain, made up of left and right hemispheres

**cervical** – relating to the cervix or neck of the tooth or any other structure

**chol-** (prefix) – bile, e.g., *cholelith*, a gallstone or bile stone

**church truck** – a wheeled collapsible support for the casket, used in the funeral home, church or home

**cingulum** – an eminence or raised area on the lingual surface of the anterior teeth resulting from the lingual lobe formation

**clavicle** – collarbone

**clinical crown** – that portion of the tooth visible in the mouth: it extends from the occlusal or incisal edge to the crest of the free gingiva

**coccyx** (adj., coccygeal) – most inferior portion of the vertebral column, made up of four small bones

**coffin** – a case or receptacle for dead human remains which is anthropoidal in shape

**coinjection fluid** – a fluid used primarily to supplement and enhance the action of vascular solutions

**columbarium** – a structure, room, or space in a mausoleum or other building containing niches or recesses used to hold cremated remains

**combination case** – a transfer container consisting of a particle board box with a cardboard tray and cover to satisfy air shipping regulations

**communiton** – pulverization, crushing, or grinding to a powder

**composite** – tooth-shaded restorative material

**concave** – curving inward; a depression

**concrete sectional** – a grave liner consisting of six or eight slabs of unfinished concrete placed around the casket

**concurrent disinfection** – disinfection practices carried out during the embalming process

**concurrent drainage** – method of drainage in which drainage occurs continuously during vascular injection

**condyle** – a rounded projection of bone; usually articulates with another bone  
**contact area** – that portion of the proximal surface of a tooth that touches the adjacent tooth  
**contralateral** – affecting or pertaining to the opposite side  
**convex** – curving outward  
**cosmetic fluid** – embalming fluid that contains dyes and coloring agents intended to restore a more natural skin tone through the embalming process  
**cranial embalming** – method used to embalm the contents of the cranial cavity through aspiration and injection of the cranial chamber by passage of a trocar through the cribiform plate  
**cranium** - skull  
**crest** – a prominence or ridge; the height  
**cribiform plate** – thin, medial portion of the ethmoid bone of the skull  
**crown** – the portion of the tooth above the gumline, also a restoration, also known as a cap  
**crypt** – a chamber in a mausoleum, of sufficient size, generally used to contain the casketed remains of a deceased person  
**cuboid** – tarsal bone  
**cuspid** – an elevation on the crown of the tooth  
**cuspid slope** – an inclination from the tip of the cuspid to the contact area on any surface of the tooth  
**cyst** – an abnormal sac filled with gas, fluid, or semi-solid material that is lined by a membrane

**death rattle** – noise made by a moribund person caused by air passing through a residue of mucous in the trachea and posterior oral cavity  
**deciduous (teeth)** – teeth that exfoliate or shed; baby teeth  
**demineralization** – weakened enamel, usually chalky in color  
**dentin** – the part of the tooth which surrounds the pulp chamber and is covered by enamel and/or cementum  
**dentinoenamel junction** – where the dentin and enamel meet  
**dentition** – the arrangement of the teeth in the dental arch  
**derma-, dermat(o)-** (prefix) – skin, e.g., *dermatitis* - inflammation of the skin  
**developmental depression** – a concavity in a surface that formed while the tooth was developing  
**diaphysis** – shaft of a long bone  
**diastema** – space between the teeth  
**diffuse** – not definitely localized or limited; spread widely through a tissue or substance  
**diploë** – the spongy bone between the tables of cortical bone in the cranium  
**dissection** – cutting apart or separating the tissues of the body for study  
**distal** – (the surface of the tooth) farthest from the midline; away from the trunk or head  
**distribution** – the movement of embalming solutions from the point of injection throughout the arterial system and into the capillaries  
**dorsum** – top surface of the tongue

**drain tube** – tubular instrument of varying diameter and shape, preferably with a plunger, that is inserted into a vein to aid in drainage of blood and to restrict the exit of vascular embalming solution

**drainage** – discharge or withdrawal of blood, interstitial fluid and embalming fluids from the body during vascular embalming. Usually removed through a vein of the body.

**dys-** (prefix) – difficult; bad; abnormal, e.g., *dysplasia* - abnormal formation; e.g., *dyspnea* - shortness of breath; difficulty breathing

**ecto-** (prefix) – outside

**-ectomy** (suffix) – excision, e.g., *cholecystectomy* - excision of the gallbladder

**edema** – an abnormal accumulation of fluid in the cavities and intercellular spaces of the body

**edentulous** – having no teeth

**electric aspirator** – a device that uses a motor to create a suction for the purpose of aspiration

**electric spatula** – an electrically heated blade which may be used to dry moist tissue, reduce swollen tissue, and restore contour to natural form

**embalming** – process of chemically treating the dead human body to reduce the presence and growth of microorganisms, to temporarily inhibit organic decomposition, and to restore an acceptable physical appearance

**embrasure** – a curvature on the tooth that allows the food to spill away (spillway)

**eminence** – a prominence

**enamel** – the hard covering of the tooth above the gumline

**end** – a termination; extremity.

**endo-** (prefix) – within; inner

**epiphysis** – an extremity or margin of a bone; this usually forms separately from the primary part of the bone (such as the diaphysis) and fuses at maturity

**eruption** – the moving of the tooth occlusally

**ethmoid** – a sieve-like cranial bone between the orbits

**exfoliate** – to shed

**exostoses** - extra bone, usually on the buccal aspect in the mouth; can be found on any bone

**external** – on the outer surface

**extravasate** – to allow or force blood to flow from its normal vessel into

**extravascular** – outside the blood vascular system

**extrinsic** – from outside the body

**exudate** – to pass through pores, an incision; ooze; discharge

**eyecap** – a thin plastic dome-shaped disk used to restore contour just beneath the eyelids; an aid in eye closure

**facet** – a smooth area on a bone, often on a joint surface

**facial** – toward the face

**femur (pl., femora)** – thigh bone

**fiber** – a thread-like structure

**fibula** – bone on the outside of the lower leg, next to the tibia

**firming** – rigidity of tissue due to chemical reaction  
**fissure** – a faulty groove  
**fixation** – the act of making tissue rigid; the solidification of a compound  
**foramen (pl., foramina)** – a hole or opening; the foramen magnum is the opening at the base of the skull for the brainstem  
**Fordyce granules** – displaced sebaceous glands, appear as white small bumps around or inside the oral cavity  
**formaldehyde (HCHO)** – colorless, strong-smelling gas that when used in solution is a powerful preservative and disinfectant; a potential occupational carcinogen  
**fornex** – vault or arch shaped  
**fossa** – a shallow depression  
**frenulum** – a small frenum  
**frenum** - muscle attachment  
**frontal** – cranial bone above the face  
**furcation** – an area where the root trunk forks or divides  
**furrow** – a groove

**gauge** – a measurement of thickness of metals; the number of sheets of metal necessary to equal approximately one inch of thickness  
**genitalia** – the reproductive organs  
**gingiva** – the mucosa that covers the alveolar bone and surrounds the teeth  
**gingival crest** – the prominent edge of occlusal or incisal gingiva  
**glossal** – pertaining to the tongue  
**grave liner** – an outer enclosure which offers protection from the earth load but without protection from the elements  
**gravity injector** – apparatus used to inject arterial fluid during the vascular phase of the embalming process; relies on gravity to create the pressure required to deliver the fluid  
**groove** – a long, narrow depression  
**groove director** – instrument used to guide drainage tubes into veins

**hardening compound** – chemical in powder form that has the ability to absorb and to disinfect; often used in cavity treatment of autopsied cases  
**head rest** – piece of equipment used to maintain the head in the proper position during the embalming process  
**hematoma** – a localized collection of extravasated blood, usually clotted  
**hermetically sealed** – airtight; impervious to external influence; completely sealed by fusion or soldering  
**heterodont** – different types of teeth with the same dentition (incisors, canines, molars, etc.)  
**high preservation demand fluids** – special vascular fluid with a high HCHO content  
**homodont** – only one type of tooth in the dentition (e.g., all molars)  
**humectant** – chemical that increases the ability of embalmed tissue to retain moisture

**humerus** – upper arm bone

**hydro aspirator** – apparatus that is connected to the water supply; when the water is turned on a suction is developed and is used to aspirate the contents of the body's cavities

**hyoid** – U-shaped bone in the neck

**hyper- (prefix)** – above and beyond; excessive

**hypertrophy** – an increase in the size of a cell, tissue, or organ usually as a physiologic response to a stimulus

**hypo- (prefix)** – a reduction in the size of a cell, tissue, or organ

**hypodermic embalming** – injection of embalming chemicals directly into the tissues through the use of a syringe and needle or trocar

**hypoplasia** – underdevelopment of a tissue or organ usually due to a decrease in the number of cells

**hypostasis** – settling of the blood and/or other fluids to dependent portions of the body

**idiopathic** – occurring without known cause

**ilium** – the large flat portion of the innominate

**incision** – a clean cut made with a sharp instrument; in embalming, a cut made with a scalpel to raise arteries and veins

**incisors** – anterior teeth

**index** – the strength of embalming fluids indicated by the number of grams of pure formaldehyde gas dissolved in 100 ml of water; the index usually refers to a percentage, so that an embalming fluid with an index of 25 usually contains 25% formaldehyde gas

**inferior** – lower; below

**injection** – the act or instance of forcing a fluid into the vascular system or directly into tissues

**injection pressure** – the amount of pressure produced by an injection device to overcome initial resistance within (intravascular) or on (extravascular) the vascular system (arterial or venous)

**innominate** – hip bone

**intercuspatation (interdigitation)** – interlocking; a cusp-to-fossa relationship of the maxillary teeth to the mandibular teeth

**intermittent drainage (restricted drainage)** – method of drainage in which the drainage is stopped at intervals while the injection continues

**internal** – within

**interproximal** – the space between two adjoining surfaces

**intra- (prefix)** – within, inside

**invagination** – to enclose within

**ischium** – the lower portion of the innominate

**-itis (suffix)** – inflammation, e.g., *appendicitis* - inflammation of the appendix

**jaundice fluid** – a special vascular fluid with special bleaching and coloring qualities for use on bodies with jaundice; usually a low formaldehyde content

**labial** – relating to the lip  
**lateral** – away from the midline; to the side  
**lesion** – an alteration or abnormality in a tissue or cell; a pathological change  
**ligate** – to tie off an artery and vein upon completion of embalming  
**line angle** – an angle formed by the joining of two surfaces  
**linear guide** – a line drawn or visualized on the surface of the skin to represent the approximate location of some deeper-lying structure  
**lingual** – relating to the tongue  
**lipping** – formation of a lip-like structure, as on the margin of an articular surface in osteoarthritis  
**livor mortis/cadaveric lividity** – postmortem, intravascular, red-blue discoloration resulting from hypostasis of blood  
**lobe** – a major center of tooth formation; a rounded part or projection of a structure  
**long bone** – one of the bones of the arms or legs  
**lumbar** – lower back  
**-lysis** (suffix) – to dissolve, e.g., *autolysis* - self-dissolution

**malocclusion** – any deviation from the ideal positioning of the teeth  
**mamelon** – a rounded prominence on the incisal edge of newly erupted incisors that are remnants of lobe formation  
**mandible** – lower jaw  
**mandibular** – relating to the lower jaw or mandible  
**mandibular foramen** – a foramen in the ascending ramus of the mandible  
**marginal ridge** – a linear elevation located around the perimeter of a surface  
**Maryland bridge** – a restoration which replaces missing teeth with a wing on each side  
**masking agent** – perfuming agent  
**matrix** – a basic substance from which something forms  
**mausoleum** – a building containing crypts or vaults for entombment; an above ground structure for burial  
**maxilla** – upper jaw  
**maxillary** – relating to the upper jaw of maxilla  
**medial** – near the middle or medial plane; toward the midline  
**membrane** – a thin layer of flexible tissue  
**meninges** – the three membranes covering the brain and spinal cord (the dura mater, arachnoid, and pia mater)  
**mental** – relating to the chin  
**mental foramen** – an opening in the bone on the mandible by the premolars  
**mesial** – toward the middle of the mouth  
**mesiodens** – a supernumerary tooth located between the maxillary incisors  
**metacarpal** – bone in the palm of the hand  
**metatarsal** – bone of the arch of the foot  
**midline** – the center of the body, usually referring to the sagittal plane

**modifying agents** – chemicals added to the embalming solution to deal with varying demands predicated upon the type of embalming, the environment and the embalming fluid to be used

**molar** – the large posterior grinding tooth

**moribund** – in a dying state; in the agonal period

**morphodifferentiation** – development into specific form or structure

**morphology** – the study of form or structure

**mortuary putty** – a paste used to fix or fill

**mouth former** – a device used in the mouth to shape the contour of the lips

**mucosa** – mucous membrane

**mucous** (adj.) – relating to or resembling mucus

**mucus** (n.) – the exudate of the mucous membranes

**multipoint injection** – vascular injection from two or more arteries

**musculature suture** – method of mouth closure in which a suture is passed through the septum of the nose and through the mentalis muscle of the chin

**nasal** – relating to the nose

**nasal aperture** – opening in the midface for the nose

**nasal bone** – one of two bone forming the top of the nose

**nasal tube aspirator** – embalming instrument used to aspirate the throat by means of the nostrils

**necropsy** – autopsy

**necrosis** – the morphologic changes indicative of cell death, indicated by characteristic changes in the structure of the cell

**needle injector** – a mechanical device used to impel specially designed pins into bone

**oblique ridge** – a linear elevation that transverses a surface

**occipital** – cranial bone on the back of the skull

**occlude** – to close the teeth together

**occlusal** – relating to the biting surface

**occlusion** – the relationship of the maxillary and mandibular arch in a closed position

**one point injection** – injection and drainage from one location

**operative corrections** – any and all techniques to treat a problem area; excision, incision, wicking

**oral cavity** – the mouth

**orbit** – the bony socket for the eye

**orthodontic** – braces

**os coxae** – the hip bone

**osteo-** (prefix) – bone

**osteophyte** – spicule or extension of bone

**outer burial containers** – any container which is designed for placement in the grave around the casket, including, but not limited to, containers commonly known as burial vaults, grave boxes and grave liners

**packing forceps** – embalming instrument used in filling the external orifices of the body

**palatal** – pertaining to the roof of the mouth

**panorex** – a large x-ray showing both maxillary & mandibular arches, from ear to ear

**parallel incision** – incision on the surface of the skin to raise the common carotid arteries. It is made along the posterior border of the inferior one-third of the sternocleidomastoid muscle

**parenchyma** – the essential or functional elements of an organ

**parietal** – paired cranial bones forming part of the braincase

**passive eruption** – the increased exposure of the tooth. As a person ages, the gingiva recedes so that the clinical crown is greater in size.

**patella** – knee cap

**PDL** - periodontal ligament; the ligament which lines the tooth socket and attaches the tooth to the bone

**pediculicide** – substance able to destroy lice

**pelvis** – hip

**perfuming agent** – chemicals found in embalming arterial formulations having the capability of displacing an unpleasant odor or of altering an unpleasant odor so that it is converted to a more pleasant one

**perfusion** – to force a fluid through an organ or tissue, especially by way of the blood vessels; injection during vascular embalming

**periodontium** – the structures that surround and support the teeth

**periosteum** – membrane cover most bone surfaces, except at the joints

**permanent teeth** – the teeth that replace the deciduous or primary teeth

**petechia (pl., petechiae)** – a pinpoint, non-raised, purplish-red spot caused by intradermal or subcutaneous hemorrhage; these are tell-tale symptoms of Ebola and Lassa fevers

**PFM** – porcelain fused to metal - a type of crown restoration

**phalanx (pl., phalanges)** – bones of the fingers and toes

**pit** – a pinpoint sized depression

**plantar** – the sole of the foot

**point angle** – the area on the tooth where three surfaces meet

**polyp** – a spheroidal mass that protrudes upwards or outwards from a normal surface

**polyphyodont** – having several sets of teeth during a lifetime

**polypoid** – resembling a polyp

**positioning devices** – preparation room equipment for properly positioning bodies prior to, during, and after vascular embalming

**posterior** – toward the back

**postmortem** – period that begins after somatic death

**postmortem examination** – autopsy

**postmortem stain** – extravascular color change that occurs when heme, released by hemolysis of red blood cells, seeps through the vessel walls and into the body tissues

**potential pressure** – the pressure indicated by the injector gauge needle when the injector is running and the arterial tubing is clamped off

**pouch** – a leak-resistant zippered bag designed to contain a dead human body and body fluids and is used mainly for the removal of dead human remains from the place of death

**preinjection fluid** – fluid injected primarily to prepare the vascular system and body tissues for the injection of the preservative vascular solution; this solution is injected before the preservative vascular solution is injected

**premolar** – double cusped teeth located between the cuspids and molars

**preparation room** – that area or facility wherein embalming, dressing, cosmetizing, or other body preparation are effected

**preservative demand (formaldehyde demand)** – amount of preservative (formaldehyde) required to effectively preserve remains depends on the condition of the tissues as determined in the embalming analysis

**preservative powder** – chemical in powder form; typically used for surface embalming of the remains

**primary dilution** – the dilution attained as the embalming solution is mixed in the embalming machine

**primary disinfection** – disinfection carried out prior to the embalming process

**primate spacing** – the normal spacing between primary anterior teeth

**proliferation** – rapid reproduction

**proximal** – close to the torso or head; nearest the point of attachment; the mesial or distal surface of the tooth

**proximal surface** – the surface of the tooth adjacent to the next tooth; refers to the mesial and distal surfaces

**pubis** – anterior portion of the innominate

**pulp canal** – the portion of the pulp in the root of the tooth

**pulp cavity** – the entire space within the tooth that contains pulp tissue

**pulp chamber** – the portion of the pulp in the crown of the tooth

**pulp horn** – the portion of the pulp chamber that extends toward a cusp

**pulpitis** – inflammation of the pulp of the tooth

**purge** – postmortem evacuation of any substance from an external orifice of the body as a result of pressure

**quadrant** – a fourth (of the dentition)

**radius** – lower arm bone on the same side as the thumb

**ramus (pl., rami)** – branch; the mandible has a horizontal ramus, housing the teeth, and two ascending rami forming the posterior portions of the bone

**raphe** – a union of soft tissue

**rate of flow** – speed at which solution is injected

**reaspilation** – repeated aspiration of a cavity

**resorb** – to dissolve into tissue

**restoration** – treatment of the deceased in the attempt to recreate natural form and color

**restorative fluid (humectant)** – supplemental fluid, used with the regular arterial solution whose purpose is to retain body moisture and retard dehydration

**restricted cervical injection** – method of injection wherein both common carotid arteries are raised

**restricted drainage** – intermittent drainage

**retrocuspid papilla** – a small tag of tissue usually found lingual to the mandibular cuspids

**ridge** – a linear elevation

**root trunk** – that portion of the root that is not bifurcated or trifurcated

**rugae** – the bumps of tissue found on the hard palate behind the maxillary incisors

**sacrum** – triangular bone at the base of the vertebral column; forms part of the pelvic girdle

**sagittal** – cranial suture separating the parietal bones

**saponification** – the hydrolysis of a fat by alkali with the formation of a soap and glycerol

**scapula** – shoulder bone

**serosa** – any serous membrane

**serous** – like serum, thin and watery

**socket** – a cavity in the bone; see alveolus

**sphenoid** – bone in the base of the skull

**sternum** – breast bone, made up of the manubrium, corpus sterni, and xiphoid process

**subgingival** – under the gumline

**sublingual** – under the tongue

**submucosa** – the layer of tissue under the mucous membrane

**succedaneous** – a tooth that replaces or succeeds another tooth

**sulcus** – a shallow depression

**superior** – upper; above

**supernumerary** – exceeding a fixed number; extra

**supplemental fluids** – fluid injected for purposes other than preservation and disinfection; supplemental fluids generally fall into one of three categories: preinjection, coinjection, and humectants or restorative fluids

**supragingival** – above the gumline

**surface compress** – cloth, wet or dry, folded and applied firmly to a body part

**surface embalming** – the direct contact of body tissues with embalming chemicals

**surface pack** – an absorbent material, compress, saturated with an embalming chemical and placed in direct contact with the tissue

**suture** – a joining of two bones; surgical stitch

**symmetrical** – exact form of both sides of a dividing line; mirrored

**talus** – tarsal bone that articulates with the tibia

**tarsal** – ankle bone (there are 7 on each side)

**temporal** – one of two bones forming the sides of the skull and housing the hearing apparatus

**terminal disinfection** – institution of disinfection and decontamination measures after the preparation of the remains

**terminal mesial step** – the position of a vertical plane along the distal surfaces when the deciduous second molars are in Class I position.

**terminal plane** – the distal surfaces of the maxillary and mandibular deciduous second molars that are on the same line or plane

**thanatology** – study of death

**thoracic** – part of the thorax or trunk

**thorax** – the chest or upper part of the body's trunk

**tibia** – shin bone

**tissue** – a group of similar or related cells

**tissue gas** – postmortem accumulation of gas in tissues or cavities brought about by an anaerobic gas forming bacillus, e.g., *Clostridium perfringens*

**topical disinfection** – disinfection of the surface of the body or an object

**torso** – the trunk of the body; the part of the body that does not include the head, arms, and legs

**torus (pl. tori)** – extra bone deposit can be found on the palate or the lingual part of the mandible

**translocation** – an agonal or postmortem redistribution of host microflora on a hostwide basis

**transverse ridge** – a linear elevation that crosses a surface (usually the occlusal surface)

**triangular ridge** – a linear elevation that forms a triangle

**trifurcation** – forked or divided into three (roots)

**trocar** – sharply pointed surgical instrument used in cavity embalming to aspirate the cavities and inject cavity fluids; the trocar may also be used for supplemental hypodermic embalming

**trocar button** – a plastic threaded screw-like device for sealing punctures and small round trocar openings

**trocar guide** – a line drawn or visualized on the surface of the body, or a prominent anatomic structure used to locate internal structures during cavity embalming, from a point of reference two inches to the left of and two inches superior to the umbilicus

**tubercle** – a small rounded projection

**tuberosity** – a rounded projection on a bone

  

**ulcerated** – having a local defect or excavation of the epithelium of an organ or tissue through the basement membrane

**ulna** – lower arm bone opposite the radius; the proximal end is part of the elbow

**unilateral** – affecting only one side

**unionall** – plastic garment designed to cover the entire body from the neck down to and including the feet

**universal** – common to all purposes

**urn** – a container for cremated remains

**uvula** – the tissue that dangles down from the soft palate at the back of the throat

**vacuum breaker** – apparatus that prevents the back-siphoning of contaminated liquids into potable water supply lines or plumbing cross-connections within the preparation room

**vascular (arterial) embalming** – the use of the blood vascular system of the body for temporary preservation, disinfection and restoration; accomplished through injection of embalming solutions into the arteries and drainage from the veins

**vault** – an outer enclosure which offers protection from the earth load as well as possessing sealing qualities

**ventral** - bottom surface of the tongue; also refers to anterior aspects of the body

**vermilion** – the border of the lips

**vertebra** – a single bone in the spinal column

**viscera** – internal organs enclosed within a cavity

**visceral** – nerves that supply internal organs (viscera)

**viscous** – thick, coagulated; sticky or gummy

**Ziegler case** – a gasketed container that can be used as an insert into a casket or as a separate shipping container

**zygomatic** – cheek bone, also known as the malar

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