**Illustrative Table Shells**

Several analyses are planned and further illustrated in the table shells.

Table 1. Sociodemographic characteristics of study population. This analysis will describe the sociodemographic characteristics of the study population considering accounting for both jurisdictional and individual differences.

Table 2. Procedures completed as part of a sudden unexpected infant death investigation in your jurisdiction. This analysis will describe the variation in procedures routinely completed as part of a SUID investigation. We will calculate the weighted percentages.

Table 3. Frequency of procedures used to make a determination of cause of death for sudden unexpected infant deaths in your jurisdiction(s). This analysis will describe the variation in procedures routinely completed to determine cause of death for SUID cases. We will calculate the weighted percentages.

Table 4. Case Scenarios by cause of death determinations. This analysis will describe the variation in cause-of-death determinations used by medical examiners and coroners for different SUID case scenarios. Percentages will be calculated and additional cross-tabulations will be completed by stratifying by medical examiner or coroner, years of experience, level of training, board certification or not, etc.

Table 5-8. Evidence needed to classify a death as suffocation/overlay/wedging-entrapment/SIDS. These descriptive analyses aim to determine the frequency of specific types of death scene investigation and autopsy evidence are used by medical examiners and coroners to determine various causes of SUID. Percentages will be calculated and additional cross-tabulations will be completed by stratifying by medical examiner or coroner, years of experience, level of training, board certification or not, etc.

Table 9. Definitions of SIDS. This analysis will examine the various SIDS .and SUID definitions used by medical examiners and coroners to determine a SIDS or SUID cause of death. Frequencies and percentages will be calculated.

**Table 1. Sociodemographic characteristics of study population**

| Characteristic | n | Weighted percent (%) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Office-level* |  |  |
| Office typeState medical examiner office District/regional medical examiner officeCounty medical examiner officeCity medical examiner officeDistrict/regional coroner officeCounty coroner office |  |  |
| Jurisdiction / population size

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1,000,000 or more 500,000 to 999,999 250,000 to 499,999 100,000 to 249,999 50,000 to 99,999 25,000 to 49,999 10,000 to 24,9992,500 to 9,999 Less than 2,500Not sure  |

 |  |  |
| Protocol used for conducting unexpected infant death investigationsSudden Unexplained Infant Death Investigation Reporting Form (SUIDRF)[[1]](#footnote-1) Protocol based on or equivalent to Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Investigation Reporting Form (SUIDRF) State or jurisdiction-specific protocol Other No protocol |  |  |
| What training relevant to infant death scene investigation do the staff in your jurisdiction required to complete?No specific training requiredCourse using CDC training materials on Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID)[[2]](#footnote-2) One-on-one training from staff who received CDC SUID investigation trainingState-based training(s)National Institute of Justice-sponsored Webinar Other Not sure |  |  |
| Office reimbursed for death scene investigations?YesNo |  |  |
| *Individual-level* |  |  |
| Age (years)20-2425-2930-3435-3940-4445-4950-5455-5960-6465-6970 + |  |  |
| SexMale Female |  |  |
| Ethnicity Non-Hispanic Hispanic |  |  |
| Race WhiteBlack or African AmericanAsianNative Hawaiian or Other Pacific IslanderAmerican Indian or Alaska NativeOther |  |  |
| Title or positionChief medical examinerCoronerJustice of the PeaceOther |  |  |
| Highest level of education attainedSome high school or less High school graduateSome college2-year college graduate 4-year college graduate Post graduate study |  |  |
| Area of Board Certification NonePediatricsPathologyPediatrics and PathologyOther |  |  |
| Training completed related to SUID InvestigationCourse using CDC training materials on sudden unexpected infant death (SUID) investigation One-on-one training from staff person who received CDC SUID training State-based trainingNational Institute of Justice-sponsored Webinar Other  |  |  |
| Years of experience as a medical examiner or coroner<11-23-56-1011-1516-20>20 |  |  |
| Approximate number of infant death cases investigated during the past year<11-23-56-1011-1516-20>20 |  |  |
| Approximate number of infant death cases investigated in your career<11-23-56-1011-1516-20>20 |  |  |

**Table 2. Procedures completed as part of a sudden unexpected infant death investigation in your jurisdiction**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Number and weighted percent |
| Procedure | Completed Routinely | Completed on a case-by-case basis | Nevercompleted | Not sure |
| Autopsy |  |  |  |  |
| Witness interview(s) |  |  |  |  |
| Infant’s medical history |  |  |  |  |
| Infant’s dietary history |  |  |  |  |
| Pregnancy history for infant’s birth mother |  |  |  |  |
| Family’s social history (i.e., involvement of social services) |  |  |  |  |
| Photos or videos |  |  |  |  |
| Scene diagram |  |  |  |  |
| Body diagram(s) |  |  |  |  |
| Collected materials (e.g., medications, baby bottle) |  |  |  |  |
| Incident scene investigation at the site where the death occurred |  |  |  |  |
| Scene re-creation with doll |  |  |  |  |
| Scene re-creation without doll |  |  |  |  |
| Review of 911 tape |  |  |  |  |

**Table 3. Frequency of procedures used to make a determination of cause of death for sudden unexpected infant deaths in your jurisdiction(s)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Number and weighted percent |
| Procedure | Completed Routinely | Completed on a case-by-case basis | Nevercompleted | Not sure |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Death scene investigation |  |  |  |  |
| Review of medical records from a health care provider |  |  |  |  |
| Complete autopsy (defined as removal and examination of the brain, thoracic, and abdominal organs) |  |  |  |  |
| Partial autopsy (defined as minimal dissection, less than complete) |  |  |  |  |
| Toxicology analysis |  |  |  |  |
| Radiology (one or more x-rays) |  |  |  |  |
| Metabolic screen |  |  |  |  |
| Genetic testing |  |  |  |  |
| Microbiology |  |  |  |  |
| Pathology |  |  |  |  |
| Histology |  |  |  |  |
| Other  |  |  |  |  |

**Table 4. Case Scenarios by cause of death determinations (%)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Cause of death determinations |
| Scenario # | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

Repeat Table 4, but stratify by medical examiner or coroner, years of experience, level of training, board certification or not, and other selected characteristics.

**Table 5. Evidence needed to classify a death as suffocation**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Type of evidence | Number reporting | Percent reporting |
| Autopsy |  |  |
| Scene re-creation with doll |  |  |
| Etc. |  |  |

**Table 6. Evidence needed to classify a death as overlay**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Type of evidence | Number reporting | Percent reporting |
| Autopsy |  |  |
| Scene re-creation with doll |  |  |
| Etc. |  |  |

**Table 7. Evidence needed to classify a death as wedging/entrapment**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Type of evidence | Number reporting | Percent reporting |
| Autopsy |  |  |
| Scene re-creation with doll |  |  |
| Etc. |  |  |

**Table 8. Evidence needed to classify a death as SIDS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Type of evidence | Number reporting | Percent reporting |
| Autopsy |  |  |
| Scene re-creation with doll |  |  |
| Etc. |  |  |

**Table 9. Definitions of SIDS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Definition of SIDS | Number | Weighted percent |
| Willinger |  |  |
| Krous |  |  |
| Beckwith |  |  |
| Randall |  |  |
| Avon |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

1. <http://www.cdc.gov/sids/SUIDRF.htm> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://www.cdc.gov/sids/TrainingMaterial.htm> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)