

## Death Investigation Systems

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now has its directory **Death Investigation in the United States and Canada** available on the Web. The directory contains descriptions of the death investigation systems for each state, territory, and Canadian Province.

Until recently, the directory was only available in printed form and was updated every several years. The data base is now electronic and is being updated as new information is received. However, some aspects of the directory are still being updated and some information is possibly out of date. See <http://www.cdc.gov/epo/dphsi/mecisp/index.htm>

Also, two recent publications deal with death investigation systems in the United States as they relate to coroner and medical examiner systems. They are...

Hanzlick R. Coroner training needs: a numeric and geographic analysis. *JAMA* 1996;276:1775-1778.

Hanzlick R, Combs D. Medical examiner and coroner systems: history and trends. *JAMA* 1998;279:870-874.