

# Closure



## About CT Scanning

A Computed Tomography (CT/CAT) scan is a short, tunnel-like x-ray machine that takes hundreds of cross-sectional images of the inside of the body. A CT scan uncovers in minutes what can traditionally



## What Can It See?

- **Head and Brain Injuries** Examples: infarctions, hemorrhage, stroke hematomas.
  - **Heart and Vessels Disease** Such as heart failure, heart attack, coronary artery disease.
  - **Lung-Related Disease** Examples: infection, cancer, pneumonia, COPD, drowning.
  - **Abdominal Organs and Disease** Such as bowel perforation, obstruction, cirrhosis of the liver, hematoma.
  - **Injury due to Trauma** Such as fractured bones, dislocations, death from strangulation/suffocation, effects from invasive wounds.
- This list is a sample only and does not represent the full scope of the system's capability. Like all modern technology, it is continually evolving and there are some limitations. Speak with us and we will work with you to see if this an appropriate choice for you and your family.



## Comfort for Families Using Scans not Scalpels

Virtual Autopsy:  
Post-Mortem Investigation

take hours in a conventional post-mortem. The head, thorax, spine, arms and legs are scanned. Special attention is given to a heart scan. This may involve the injection of a contrast material directly into the heart and its vessels in order to see any occlusions or damage.

## Disclaimer

The majority of post-mortem questions can be answered with a virtopsy. Occasionally a virtual post-mortem does not find the cause of death and traditional means may be necessary.

## A Virtual Autopsy is...

A non-invasive and dignified post-mortem exam with the latest in digital technology.  
A way to preserve the sanctity of the body.  
A modern CT scanner is used in place of a scalpel to peer inside the body.  
Hundreds of cross-sectional images are taken for analysis by trained forensic physicians. The cause of death is established without the need to cut or blemish the body in any way.

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Provides confirmation of the cause of death.  
Gives answers to post-mortem medical questions.  
Information may be of benefit to next of kin regarding potential health issues.  
Is respectful of religious requirements.  
The procedure is humane and stress free.  
A virtual autopsy has the added benefit of creating a digital record for posterity.

## Where is it Done?

Virtopsy Canada works with  
Cambridge Memorial Hospital  
(700 Coronation Blvd,  
Cambridge, ON N1R 3G2)

Logistics and arrangements are made with your funeral director.



## What you will need:

1. A consent form signed by the family representative or executor.
2. A physician signed requisition form. This is usually signed by the deceased's family doctor. A copy of the results and images are provided to you. A report is also sent to the family doctor. You and the doctor can review and discuss the findings together.

Forms/Info: [www.virtopsy.ca](http://www.virtopsy.ca)

Phone: 1 888 521 0866

Fax: 1 866 899 4674

[info@virtopsy.ca](mailto:info@virtopsy.ca)



## Virtopsy Canada

The Virtual Autopsy  
Answers • Closure • Comfort

Partners:

