

6. INVESTIGATION OF POST MORTEM CASE

Suitable samples for viral isolation and PCR should be obtained from the liver, lung, thymus, spleen, lymph nodes, CSF, pleural fluid and brain tissues in a patient suspected to have died of DF/DHF.^{3, 78} However PCR is a more sensitive method.^{78, 79, 80}

For serological confirmation of dengue illness a seroconversion of dengue IgM needs to be demonstrated. In a patient who has died suspected of dengue, a repeat dengue serology together with the samples mentioned above should be obtained.

Caution: Massive blood transfusion may affect the test results mentioned above.

Recommendations

- A repeat dengue serology should be obtained at the time of death.
- Suitable specimens for virus isolation and/ or RT-PCR and/ or antigen detection are recommended for confirmation of diagnosis.

Please refer to [Appendix 8](#) for methods of sample collection.