

PALLIATIVE PROTOCOL IN CORONERS CASES CORK COUNTY BOROUGH

Coroner Myra Cullinane

The patient whose care is confined to palliation is upon death very seldom reportable to the Coroner. When considering whether to report, do so in the following circumstances.

- 1. Questions of a criminal offence in the history of presentation irrespective of the passage of time.**
- 2. Trauma in the history of the presentation irrespective of the passage of time.**
- 3. Where any question of misadventure in relation to the treatment of the deceased arises.**
- 4. Where a causative factor in death relates to a per operative or anaesthetic event or relates to a medical procedure.**
- 5. Where death relates to an occupational disease.**
- 6. Where death occurs without a diagnosis.**
- 7. Death within 24 hours of admission.**
- 8. Where death is directly due to a hospital acquired infection in the absence of other significant co-morbidities and such infection was diagnosed before a palliative status was assigned.**
- 9. Where although a patient is known to have a significant comorbidity hospital acquired infection has brought about death at a time much earlier than would otherwise have been expected.**