The basis of medicine is the understanding of disease, and the understanding of disease comes mainly from studying body tissues that have been affected by disease. Because of this, we would like for you to consider undergoing an autopsy at the time of death. As you probably know, the clinical diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease is only 85-90% accurate. The only way to truly prove the diagnosis is to examine the brain tissue under a microscope. In addition to confirming the diagnosis, autopsy provides researchers with a means of finding the causes of brain disease—knowledge that is necessary for finding a cure.

It isn’t always easy to talk about autopsy, but family members of patients with a brain disease often find that a confirmed diagnosis eases their own fears and uncertainty. In addition, the knowledge gained from donated brain tissue may turn out to be relevant for future generations.

This packet contains:
- A form for you to sign if you are interested in brain donation
- Detailed information about brain donation
- Instructions for arranging brain donation
- A card with the numbers you would need

If you have further questions, please contact Penny Forsyth, LPN, at 205-934-1668.