

Finland (FI)



National Authority for Medicolegal Affairs *Terveysturvakeskus Oikeusturvakeskus*



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The National Authority for Medicolegal Affairs is the office acting under the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health with the purpose of maintaining and promoting patient security and assuring the quality of health care services through supervision of health care professionals.

The National Authority for Medicolegal Affairs is also responsible for issues on abortion, sterilisation, forensic psychiatry, use of human organs and tissues in medicine and medical research, and death investigations, as stipulated in law as well as other tasks prescribed or ordered by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. As ordered by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, the National Authority for Medicolegal Affairs also takes care of human rights related issues in health care and social welfare handled by international organs.

The National Authority for Medicolegal Affairs has three boards which deal with and solve issues on the supervision of health care professionals, forensic psychiatry and the interruption of pregnancy and sterilisation.

In order to manage its legal supervisory tasks, the National Authority for Medicolegal Affairs keeps a central register of health care professionals (TERHIKKI), which contains data of the right to practise a profession of over 300 000 health care professionals.

The National Authority for Medicolegal Affairs has permanently access to about 300 experts who are chosen for a term of four years and represent scientific or other expertise meaningful for the activities of the office.