

Chapter 19, verses 14-16 discuss the impurity caused by a dead body.

Verse 14: If a man dies in a tent

That is any closed structure, then any one inside the same structure will be made unclean by the presence of the dead body.

Verse 15: And every open vessel

This refers to an earthenware (pottery) utensil which does not absorb impurity through its exterior but only through any opening. If a stopper is fitted it must be airtight and not loose fitting, then the utensil will remain clean.

Verse 16: In the open field

A dead body in an open field only makes one impure by direct contact. Our sages extended this to include the covering and the side boards of a coffin containing the body.