BACKGROUND: The Inquisition was an effort by the medieval and early modern church to seek out and punish heretics through a special court. The headings Inquisition and Inquisition [place] were established as corporate body name headings under AACR1. Under AACR2 the name headings were replaced by the topical subject heading Inquisition (May Subd Geog). This instruction sheet provides guidelines for assigning this heading.

1. General rule. Assign the heading Inquisition (May Subd Geog) to works on any aspect of the Inquisition.

2. History not used. Do not use the subdivision History or subdivisions of the type History–[. . .] century, or establish period subdivisions under this subject.

3. Assigning additional headings. Assign additional headings if appropriate to bring out important aspects of the work, such as the name of a defendant in a trial, other topical headings, etc. Example:

Title: The Inquisition in the Canary Islands.
650 #0 $a Inquisition $z Canary Islands.
651 #0 $a Canary Islands $x Church history.