

Forensic Medicine - Teaching and learning content

The lecture series of forensic medicine/forensic pathology deals specifically with those medico-legal procedures pertaining to the dead, though some of the principles of examination and findings may be similar to those in the living, e.g. description of wounds, genital findings in rape etc.

The overall aims of this lecture series are to provide students with an overview of basic forensic (medico-legal) procedures that will enable them to perform and interpret coroner's autopsies and help the police in their investigations and legal disposition of these cases.

In detail following topics are addressed:

1. Introduction into forensic medicine. Early post-mortem changes (90 min).
2. Late post-mortem changes (90 min).
3. Verification and certification of death. Estimation of the time of death. Identification of the deceased (90 min).
4. Vital reactions. Performing autopsies to determine the cause of death (90 min)..
5. Sharp force trauma (90 min).
6. Blunt force trauma. Transport-related trauma. Forensic Neuropathology (90 min).
7. Pressure on the neck & asphyxia, Special Forms.: Hanging, Strangulation, Suffocation, Drowning (90 min).
8. Forensic Toxicology (90 min).
9. Forensic DNA-Analysis (90 min).
10. Forensic aspects of fire, burns & electricity (90 min).
11. Firearms, ballistics & gunshot wounds (90 min).
12. Medical malpractice: communication, consent, confidentiality, record keeping, statement and report writing (90 min)..
13. Forensic medical exam (30 questions, 60 min)