

Medicolegal Terms & Autopsy Cases

Asphyxia

- Asphyxia - a condition where the body does not receive enough oxygen, leading to unconsciousness or death.

Cyanosis:

- Bluish discoloration of the skin, lips, nails, or mucous membranes due to lack of adequate oxygen in the blood.

Post mortem Staining:

- After a person dies - heart stops pumping blood.
- The blood then slowly settles down in the lowest parts of the body because of gravity.
- Causes a reddish-purple colour change on the skin.

Rigor Mortis:

- the muscles first become relaxed,
- after a few hours they gradually become stiff and hard.
- This stiffness usually starts in the smaller muscles (like the face and jaw) and later spreads to the whole body.

Cause vs Manner of Death

**Extremely important for all Doctors,
Police Officers, Investigators & the
Judiciary**

Cause of Death

refers to the
**Specific injury,
Disease, or
Condition**
that actually led to
the death of a
person.

What physically caused the person to Die?

- Hemorrhagic shock - **Stab injury**
- Head injury - **R.T.A**
- Myocardial infarction (**heart attack**)
- Poisoning **by OP compounds**
- **Asphyxia due to Hanging**

Manner of Death

How
Cause of Death
came about
under the
circumstances.

Classified as...

- **Natural**
- **Accidental**
- **Suicidal**
- **Homicidal**
- **Undetermined**

To Explain this Session

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we would now

Enter the Autopsy Room

Bruise



Cyanosis



Lacerated Injury



Pond Fracture



Grazed Abrasion



Petechial Haemorrhage



Case - I



The weapon produced (Photo)







Case - II







Case - III



- Body found dead inside the room – due to foul smell.
- The face - fully Cyanosed.
- Cyanosis was more marked above the chest.
- Signs of blister formation (Putrefactive changes)
- Wrist cut marks 4-5 neatly cut superficial marks Post-mortem in nature).
- The **Rt. hand - positional rigor??**



Case - III

1. Sexual Assault case – Referred from Namchi DH, 2013.
2. Sexual Assault Case – at STNM Hospital.