



# Introduction to forensic Medicine

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# Definition

A BRACH OF MEDICINE  
THAT USED FOR  
PURPOSES OF LAW.

# Forensic Medicine

IT DEALS WITH CASES THAT INVOLVE BOTH LEGAL AND MEDICAL ASPECTS OF PATIENTS CARE .

PATTERN INJURY RECOGNITION, INTERPRETATION OF INJURIES AND DOCUMENTATION OF INJURIES ARE THE VITAL COMPONENTS WHICH EVALUATED .

# Forensic Medicine

\*Autopsy : is the primary tool of forensic medicine that frequently used for identification of the dead.

\*Autopsies may also be conducted to determine the cause of death.

\*(In a death by gunshot, for example, he can determine with reasonable accuracy the range and angle of fire).

\* Forensic medicine is a major factor in the identification of victims of disaster.

\* In cause-of-death determinations, forensic pathologists can also significantly affect the outcome of trials dealing with **insurance** and **inheritance**.

## \* **Branches of forensic medicine :**

- **Forensic pathology**
  - The knowledge of medicine is used to find out the **cause of death** by performing **autopsies/post mortem examinations**.
    - (a) In traumatic deaths.
    - (b) In sudden unexpected deaths.
    - (c) Interpreting the mechanism of injuries & giving medico legal opinions (e.g., amount of force; position of victim)

## \* Clinical Forensic Medicine

- (a) Medicolegal examination of sexual offenses (eg.rape cases)
- (b) Determination of age for medicolegal purposes.
- (c) Medicolegal examination of Injuries in PhysicalAssaults/Battered baby.
- (d) Medicolegal examination of drunkenness.
- (e) Assessment of degree of permanent disabilities, following a factory accident of a workman for compensation.

## \* Forensic Toxicology

Deals with the sources, characters, properties of poisons, the symptoms they produce, their fatal effects & fatal doses POISON & the remedial measures that should be taken to combat their actions or effects.

## \* Forensic Thanatology

Investigates the mechanisms and forensic aspects of death, such as bodily changes that accompany death.

the post-mortem period changes.



## \* Medical Ethics

Deals with the moral principles which should guide members of the medical profession in their dealings with each other, their patients and the State.

## \* Medical etiquette

Deals with the conventional laws of courtesy observed between members of the medical profession.

# \* Medical jurisprudence

^ Deals with legal responsibilities of the physician with particular reference to those arising from physician-patient relationship ,such as:

1. Medical negligence cases
2. Consent Rights and duties of doctors
3. Serious professional misconduct
4. Medical ethics etc.

# \* Forensic Odontology/Forensic dentistry

Deals with the proper handling, examination & evaluation of dental evidences, for the interest of justices

Forensic Odontologists are responsible for:-

- 1) Identify human remains that cannot be identified using fingerprints or other means.
- 2) Identify bodies in mass disasters (eg. plane crashes).
- 3) Determine the source of bite mark injuries, in cases of assault or suspected abuse.
- 4) Estimate the age of skeletal remains.

# \* Forensic Psychiatry

Psychiatric assessment of a person for:

- 1) insanity in a case of murder.
- 2) competency as a witness.
- 3) testamentary capacity in executing a will.
- 4) validity of consent

# \* Forensic Anthropology

Assists in the identification of deceased individual's whose remains are decomposed, burned, mutilated or otherwise unrecognizable.

## \* Forensic Entomology

Covers evidence gathered through insect studies at the scenes of murder, suicide, rape, physical abuse and contraband trafficking. helpful in determining the post mortem interval & location of a death in question.

## \* Forensic Serology

Detection, classification and study of various bodily fluids (blood, sweat, semen, fecal matter) & their relationship to a crime scene.



thank you