Legal Medicine and Toxicology Module Tutorial 04:RTA/Firearms/Identification

Question 1

On information when police arrived at a scene, a car was on fire which was crushed against a concrete pillar on the highway. After the fire was put off with the help of a fire brigade the partly burnt body of a young man in the driver's seat was found. Police also noticed circular defect on the right window of the car with surrounding shattered glass. Police suspects that the car or the driver might have been subjected to a firearm injury prior to crash.

- 1.1. List 5 medico-legal issues you would address in this case. (15 marks)
- 1.2. Outline how you would help the police to determine whether the deceased was subjected to a firearm injuries (20 marks)
- 1.3. Outline the injury pattern which would help you to confirm the person was the driver. (25 Marks)

According to the Government Analyst the fire started as a result of a leaking petrol tank due to the impact.

1.4. List 4 features you would look for during the post-mortem examination to determine whether this person was alive at the time of fire. (20 marks)

Facial identification of the deceased was not possible due to injuries.

1.5. Outline four (4) measures you would take at the post mortem examination to establish the identity of this person. (20 marks)