

Forensic Medicine Tutorial 6: BATCH 29

Past papers

1) A 22-year-old university was admitted to the Emergency unit of the teaching hospital Ragama unconsciously after a student party. He was a new entrant who was attending a “party” arranged by the seniors. The parents alleged foul play and blamed senior students, for ragging him. the external examination revealed a foul contusion in the limbs and a swollen penis. The doctor attending, admitted him to the Intensive Care Unit and decided to inform the police.

1.1. List 5 injuries that you expect to see, to confirm that he was subjected to sexual assault. (15 marks)

1.2. List 5 samples that you would collect from this patient to address the medico legal issues related to this case and explain briefly the procedure in obtaining the sample by filling the table given below. (20 marks)

| Sample | medico legal issues to be addressed | Procedure in obtaing the sample |
|--------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
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| | | |

Despite of the treatments

1.3. As the house officer attending to this death, list two (02) officials that need to be informed regarding this death. (05 marks)

1.4. Name the legal authority who should conduct the inquest giving reasons (05 marks)

| Legal authority to conduct the inquest | Reasons |
|--|---------|
| | |

The inquiring officer decided to conduct a postmortem examination to address the allegations and issues with regard to this death.

1.5. If you are the Medical officer- Medico-Legal conducting this postmortem, list five (05) medico legal issues that need to be addressed. (15 marks)

1.6. Briefly describe the procedure you will adopt in the above postmortem examination to determine the possible cause/s of death. (40 marks)

2) A 3-year-old child was found unconscious by a police officer on duty, within a locked car with shutters closed, parked on the road side. The child was brought to the hospital. On admission, the child looked cyanosed and the oxygen saturation was 30%. The condition of the child improved remarkably with oxygenation.

2.1. What is the most likely reason for his unconscious state? (10 marks)

2.2. Name three (3) other situations that could lead to unconsciousness due to the reason mentioned in 2.1. (15 marks)

2.3. State two (2) medico legal duties of the house officer with regards this child. (10 marks)

The child was brought for medico legal examination on the following day. The stepmother who left the child inside the car while she finished her shopping was also brought by the police. You are the Medical Officer Medico Legal (MO-ML) in attendance.

2.4. State five (5) questions you will be asking from the police officer with regard to the scene where the child was recovered. (25 marks)

History revealed that the child was in the custody of the stepmother for one year. The consultant Judicial Medical Officer who examined the child suspects possible child abuse and neglect.

2.5. Discuss your opinion to the courts regarding the present scenario as well as the possibility of child abuse giving reasons. (40 marks)

3) A body of an unidentified young male which was found floating in a river was brought for autopsy examination. You are the Medical Officer – Medico Legal (MO-ML) attached to the area Peripheral Unit (PU).

3.1. List possible circumstances of death. (10 marks)

“Diagnosis of drowning is usually made by exclusion of other conditions”.

3.2. List the conditions of exclusions that you would make in the above case. (20 marks)

3.3. List 5 autopsy findings you would expect to see if the cause of death is drowning. (20 marks)

3.4. What are the measures you would take at the autopsy to identify this individual? (20 marks)

3.5. Briefly describe how you would assist in identification of this individual. (20 marks)

3.6 What are the autopsy and investigation/s findings that will confirm the history of intoxication? (10 marks)

4) A well-dressed middle aged man presents to the Outpatient Department (OPD) of the Colombo North Teaching Hospital complaining of severe abdominal pain and stating that a woman poisoned him.

He collapses immediately and dies.

He has no proof of his identity with him.

4.1. Briefly describe the steps involved in ordering an inquest in this case. (10 marks)

4.2. State who should carry out the inquest in this case according to the criminal procedure code. (05 marks)

Since there were no relatives claiming the body a postmortem examination was carried out after two weeks. You are the MO-ML assisting in the postmortem;

4.3. State the samples you wish to obtain in order to confirm or exclude the allegation of poisoning. (10 marks)

4.4. Outline the steps a Judicial Medical Officer should take to establish the identity of the deceased giving reasons. (20 marks)

4.5. State three (3) likely natural causes of death that would present with abdominal pain and collapse. (15 marks)

4.6. Describe the expected internal gross autopsy findings in one of the conditions you have mentioned in 1.5. (15 marks)

One month after the autopsy and burial, the police brings two individuals from two different families. One claims that the body could be that of her missing husband while the other states that it is his missing father.

4.7. Discuss how the Judicial Medical Officer should solve this identity issue. (25 marks)