



**PORTFOLIO
FOR
CLERKSHIP IN FORENSIC MEDICINE
YEAR 4
(29TH BATCH)**



**Department of Forensic Medicine
Faculty of Medicine
University of Kelaniya**

Name:.....

ME No:

Group:

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01. Introduction to the clerkship in Forensic Medicine

Intended Learning Outcomes during the clerkship

At the end of the appointment, students should be able to:

1. Obtain historical evidence during a medico legal examination of the living and dead

- Gather information in a systematic manner appropriate to the chief medico legal complaint
- Obtain the accurate chief medico legal complaint from the patient relevant to the presentation
- Conduct the systemic review in order to identify the consequences associated with the current presentation that can affect the category of hurt
- Obtain a comprehensive history in chronological order in the cases of sexual abuse and child abuse
- Gather information relevant to the death of the individual from relevant parties and records

2. Medico legal examination of an individual referred by law enforcement/criminal justice system or a patient referred by a clinician

- Conduct an appropriate general examination in order to arrive at medico legal conclusions
- Obtain trace evidences from the body and refer to further investigations (Government Analyst Department/ Crime labs) while maintaining chain of custody
- Examine the injuries for medico legal purpose
- Record the injuries for medico legal purpose
- Perform an appropriate systemic review in order to arrive at medico legal conclusions
- Perform an appropriate review of medical records to extract the findings that are relevant in arriving at medico legal conclusions
- Identify the laboratory tests that are medico legally relevant to the patient based on history and examination.
- Identify and perform appropriate referrals that are necessary for medico legal interpretation

3. Obtaining and dispatching medico-legally significant samples of scientific relevance appropriately from living and dead

- Identify the appropriate samples based on the case
- Collect relevant samples
- Label and Preserve the samples appropriately
- Dispatch to the relevant laboratory maintaining chain of custody

4. Develop competency in medico-legal reporting with an ability to form an opinion on medico legal issues in living and dead

- Appropriate documentation and reporting of patients with medico legal issues to the police and to the judiciary
- Interpret the findings and arrive at medico legal conclusions with scientific basis and reporting to the authorities appropriately
- Category of hurt/offence in criminal code
- Timing of injuries
- Circumstances
- Volitional activity
- Event reconstruction
- Features of the weapon
- Awareness of the victim
- Condition of the victim including the natural illness
- Cause of death and contributing factors
- Circumstances of death
- Time since death
- Reconstruction of events
- Post injury movements
- Post-mortem movements
- Period of survival

5. Perform medico legal autopsy examination in natural, accidental, suicidal and homicidal circumstances

- Identification of the dead
- Thorough external examination including
- General examination
- Trace evidence collection including maintenance of chain of custody
- Description of injuries
- Features relevant for identification
- Post-mortem changes

- Routine internal autopsy examination
- Select the appropriate dissection technique and instruments
- Identify and describe the pathological changes in internal organs
- Describe the injuries in internal organs

- Identify the need and relevance of special dissections
- Neck dissection
- Facial dissection
- Musculocutaneous dissection

- Pelvic dissection etc.

6. Identify the common poisonous substances and their clinico-pathological findings

- Recognize common types of poisonous plants in Sri Lanka and the clinico-pathological features.
- Recognize other poisonous substances commonly seen in Sri Lanka and the clinico-pathological features.

7. Testify in court of law as an expert witness

- Record and report autopsy findings in a post-mortem report/medico-legal examination findings in a medico legal report
- Interpret autopsy findings to arrive at medico legal conclusions
- Arrive at medico legal conclusions based on autopsy/medico legal examination
- Able to provide oral testimony
- Able to respond scientifically in cross examination

Procedures to be observed/assist/performed

Medico Legal examination of the living for

- Offenses affecting the human body (offenses affecting life, hurt, wrongful restrain and confinement, criminal force and assaults)
- Injuries related to accidents
- Drunk driving and other offences committed under the influence of liquor and addictive drugs
- Sexual offences
- Alleged perpetrators
- Assessment of suspected abuse and neglect in forensic setting
- Healthcare assessment/provision in forensic setting
- Age estimation and issues related to identification

Medico Legal examination of the dead

- Sudden natural death
- Accidental deaths
- Homicidal deaths
- Suicidal deaths
- Deaths in suspected abusive or negligent relationships
- Deaths in custody
- Deaths associated with alleged medical negligence
- Issues related to identification

Expert witness

- Reporting and interpretation of evidence

- Testifying in court of law

The portfolio has seven (07) components to be completed by students:

1. Examination of patients for medico legal purposes
 2. Medico-legal post mortem examinations (observed/assisted/ recorded)
 3. Instruments used for medico-legal examinations (handled / observed / studied)
 4. Museum specimens/ Forensic medical photographs /E-learning material studied
 5. Teacher directed learning for developing knowledge and skills for medico-legal purposes
 6. Case discussions (Reflective notes)
 7. Developing skills to be an expert witness and peer feedback (Reflective notes)
- The following form/certificate should be completed by the student and signature of the consultant, senior registrar, registrar or a medical officer should be obtained.
 - During forensic medicine clerkship you are expected to observe a minimum of 5 different postmortem examinations, minimum of 1 special dissection technique and obtain the signature of the doctor who conducted the postmortem in the form provided
 - You are expected to assist and clerk at least one post-mortem examination and obtain the signature of the doctor in the certificate of assistance and certificate on clerking
 - **Teaching/Learning Methods:**
 - Online learning module
 - Face to face small group discussions lead by teachers
 - Inward bedside teaching
 - Work in clinical setting
 - Autopsy demonstrations
 - Performance of autopsies under supervision
 - Museum teaching sessions
 - **Assessment Criteria:**

Formative assessment during clinical clerkship

 - Portfolio
 - Summative assessment

- Long case at the end of the appointment (Practical component of the CA 8)
- Unit 4 OSPE

- **Recommended reading:**
 - Simpson's Forensic Medicine, 14th Edition

- **Additional Reading:**
 - Pekka Saukko, Bernard Knight Knight's Forensic Pathology 4th Edition 2015
 - Margaret M. Stark (ed): Clinical forensic medicine: a physician's guide (3rd edition) Humana Press, 2011
 - Jason Payne-James and Roger W. Byard Encyclopedia of Forensic and Legal Medicine Reference Work, 2nd Edition, 2016
 - L.B.L. de Alwis Lecture Notes in Forensic Medicine; Volume I,II, III,IV
 - Prof. Ravindra Fernando: Management of Poisoning 4th Edition
 - Forensic Pathology (Practical Aspects of Criminal and Forensic Investigations) 2nd Edition
 - by Dominick DiMaio (Author), Vincent J.M. DiMaio M.D. (Author)

- **Instructions to complete the Portfolio.**
 - Upload the documents and images in the relevant places using the given link.
 - Complete the portfolio fully. Fill all the boxes and take signatures in relevant places.
 - At the end of the appointment upload the fully completed portfolio in pdf form.

02.Examination of patients for medico legal purposes

2.1. Clinical forensic medicine cases

cases clerked, observed and assisted

Complete the following table with reference to the cases clerked, observed and assisted.

Also, use the rating scale to rate your ability ('v') to interpret medico-legal issues in relation to the cases.

Type of Cases	MLEF number/BHT Number	Self-evaluation rating scale		
		Can do without support	Need some support	Need a lot of support
Assaults				
Road traffic accidents				
Self-Inflicted injuries				
Burns & Scalds				
Fire arm/ Explosives				
Electrocution/ Lightening				
Child Abuse				
Abortion				
Sexual Offences				
Gender Violence				
Elder Abuse				
Occupational Accident				
Alcohol Intoxication				
Ingestion of Poison				
Others (specify)				

2.2. MLEF & MLR

Filling of medico-legal documents. Need to upload minimum of **three** scanned copies of the filled and corrected MLR reports by MO-Medico-Legal/Registrars/Consultant of Forensic Medicine and get the signature in the below table. Scanned copies of MLR should be in pdf file type and the format of file name should be as follows (Minimum of three MLRs are needed to be uploaded, MLEF should be filled but not uploaded),

File Name Format: Med number with underscore + Underscore + Document number (i.e. Document_1) + Underscore + Sub Document Number

Ex: For the 1st Scanned Copy: ME_2015_999_Document_1_1.pdf

For the 2nd Scanned Copy: ME_2015_999_Document_1_2.pdf

For the 3rd Scanned Copy: ME_2015_999_Document_1_3.pdf etc.

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	1	2	3
1. Name of the victim			
2. MLEF No			
3.Type of the case			

03. Post mortem examinations for medico legal purposes

3.1.Types of autopsies observed

You are expected to observe post-mortem examinations as many as possible during the clinical attachment (**minimum of five**). You are expected to **get the signature** of the supervising doctor in the table given below. The variety of cases you will encounter during the appointment may vary.

	SR numbers of the Observed	Signature of the Supervisor	Date
Natural Deaths			
Transportation Accident			
Death following blunt force Trauma			
Death following sharp force Trauma			
Asphyxial Deaths			
Deaths due to physical agents			
Deaths due to poisoning			
Firearm & Explosives			
Others (specify)			

3.2. Documentary proof for assisting post-mortem examination

Documentary proof for assisting a minimum of **one** post-mortem examination, obtained from the supervisor who performed the post-mortem needs to be uploaded. Documentary proof (completed certificate in the given form) should be in pdf file type and the format of file name should be as follows,

File Name Format: Med number with underscore + Underscore + Document number (i.e. Document_2) + Underscore + Sub Document Number

Ex: For the 1st Document: ME_2015_999_Document_2_1.pdf
For the 2nd Document: ME_2015_999_Document_2_2.pdf etc...

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Certificate of assistance for Post-mortem examination

Mr/Miss..... Student No.....

This is to certify that the above student performed the following post-mortem on
under my supervision.

Autopsy assistance

Approved by :

.....
Head/Dept. of Forensic Medicine

To be filled by the supervising Medical Officer:

Name and designation :

.....
Signature

.....
Date

3.3. Details of the post-mortems assisted / observed.

	SR No	Cause of Death	Samples taken for Investigation
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

3.4. Witnessed / assisted special dissection procedures

Type of dissection	SR number	Witnessed / assisted	Indication for special dissection
Neck			
Pelvis			
Face			
Spinal cord			
Muscular-Skeletal			
Demonstration of pneumothorax			
Demonstration of air embolism			
Others (specify)			

3.5.PMR

Minimum of **one** clerked post-mortem report corrected by the supervisor together with the documentary proof (completed certificate in the given form) for clerking obtained from the supervisor needs to be uploaded.

Post-mortem report should be in pdf file type and the format of file name should be as follows,

File Name Format: Med number with underscore + Underscore + Document number (i.e. Document_3) + Underscore + Sub Document Number

Ex: For the 1st Document: ME_2015_999_Document_3_1.pdf

For the 2nd Document: ME_2015_999_Document_3_2.pdf

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Certificate of report writing of a Post-mortem

Mr/Miss..... Student No.....

This is to certify that the above student clerked performed the following post-mortem on under my supervision.

Autopsy/ Clerking

Approved by:

.....
Head/Dept. of Forensic Medicine

To be filled by the supervising Medical Officer:

Name and designation:

.....
Signature

.....
Date

04. Instrument handled / observed / studied for medico-legal purposes

Use the below template to upload the instruments you have observed/studied in a Word document. You may attach photographs under each instrument. Photographs should be in jpg file type.

Upload one Word document in the following format,

Name Format: Med number with underscore + Underscore + Document number (i.e. Document_4)

[Click here to Submit Document 4](#)

	Name of the Instrument	Uses
Autopsy	1.Scalpel	
	2.Tissue Forceps- Teeth	
	3.Tissue Forceps- Serrated	
	4.Bone Saw	
	5.Bone Cutting Forceps	
	6.Rib cutter	
	7.Rib Shear	
	8.Dissecting Scissors	
	9.Bowel Scissors	
	10.Coronary Scissors	

	11. Brain Knife	
	12. Post-Mortem Steel Knife	
	13. Hammer	
	14. Bone Chisel	
	15. Needle	
	16. Scale	
	17. Body Meter	
	18. Osteometer	
Clinical examination	19. Genital swabs	
	20. Other swabs	
	21. Glass slides	
	22. Sample collection tubes/containers	
	23. Comb	
	24. Adhesive tape	
	25. Others (specify)	

05. Museum specimens/ Forensic medical photographs /E-learning material studied

State medico-legal issue/issues that could be addressed from the items studied
 You are expected to use the space provided only.

Item	Medico-Legal issue/issues related to the items that were discussed
Soft Tissues	
Plant Poisons	
Bone Specimens on Identification	
Skull Injuries	
Photographs	
E-learning materials	

06. Teacher directed learning for developing knowledge and skills for medico-legal purposes

	Teaching session	Reflection on what you learnt during the session (Limit to a maximum of 50 words for each cage)
1	History taking and examination of patients for medico legal purposes	
2	Category of hurt and medico legal documents	
3	Examination techniques of alleged Sexual abuse & Report writing in sexual abuse case	

4	Examination of patients for drunkenness	
5	Formulation of cause of death and medico-legal reporting to the courts	
6	Inquest procedure in Sri Lanka	

07. Case discussions (Reflective notes)

During forensic medicine clinical attachment, **one clinical case examined by** the student for medico legal purposes and reported in MLR should be discussed in length using the format below.

Need to upload the MLR you are going to discuss with reflection.

MLR report should be in pdf file type and the format of the name should be as follows,

File Name Format: Med number with underscore + Underscore + Document number (i.e. Document_5)

Ex: ME_2015_999_Document_5.pdf

[Click here to Submit Document 5](#)

Name of the patient:	BHT: Date of admission:	MLEF Date of examination:
Presenting complaint		
Discussion Medico legal issues <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Category of hurt• Circumstances• Force/ weapon• Timing of injuries• Event reconstruction• Eligibility for compensation		

Reflection (Limit to a maximum of 100 words)

- What did you learn from the case?
- What more did you need to learn?
- How did you learn?

08. Developing skills to be an expert witness and peer feedback (Reflective notes)

Need to upload the power point presentation

Power point Presentation should be in pptx file type and the format of the name should be as follows,

File Name Format: Med number with underscore + Underscore + Document number (i.e. Document_6)

Ex: ME_2015_999_Document_6.pptx

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Topic of the presentation: -----

In the given table below reflect the skills you have gained to become an expert witness in a court of law.

Item	Reflection on the skills gained (Limit to a maximum of 50 words for each cage)
literature survey using internet	
Presentation abilities	

<p>Critical appreciation of peers work</p>	
<p>Ability to learn from peer's/ feed back</p>	
<p>Self-assessment regarding ability to be an expert witness</p>	

09.Portfolio upload

Need to upload fully completed portfolio.

Portfolio should be in pdf file type and the format of the file name should be as follows,

File Name Format: Med number with underscore + Underscore + Document number (i.e. Document_7)

Ex: ME_2015_999_Document_7.pdf

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WE WISH YOU A BRIGHT FUTURE!!!!!!

**Department of Forensic Medicine
Faculty of Medicine
University of Kelaniya**



2022