

Forensic pathology case study: the motel room

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Health sciences and medicine Forensic Pathology Case Study: " The Motel Room" What are the possible scenarios that might account for this presentation:-

In this scenario, dead body of female has been found naked lying on the bed and the bed sheets are not in proper order. The age of the female might vary between late teens and early twenties. Postmortem lividity has been found on the back of the body. It indicates that the back of the body parts of the female has got the mark from accumulation of deoxygenated blood in some vessels due to heavy contact of pressure. It generally appears within 1 hour to 2 hour after death. It means that the death has been occurred much before. The body is nude which means that the lady might have gone through some physical torture before the death. The jaw is slightly rigid which indicates that death has happened by strangulation and the body is too cool to touch which indicates that death has taken place long hours ago. How would you conduct the medicolegal investigation of this death:-

As from the primary investigation of the body, we have come to know that this can be a murder case thus we need to do medicolegal investigation. Medicolegal investigation has some steps. The first step is to arrange all necessary tools and equipments for the investigation; the next step is to arriving at the scene and introducing self. It also includes other sub steps like determining the safety and security of the scene and the risk of physical or environmental injury should be removed from the scene before starting the investigation, the next step is to confirm the death as it determines the responsibilities of the jurisdiction. The third step is to gather photographs and conducting evaluation of the scene. Then the fourth step is to evaluating the body by taking the photograph of the body, conducting external

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examination to see any external marks, preserving the evidence on the dead body. The fifth step is to recording the information about the decedent. The sixth step is to completing the medicolgal investigation by maintaining proper jurisdiction over the body which permits the investigator to send the body for autopsy. It also includes other steps such as releasing the jurisdiction, performing the exit procedures and finally assisting the family members in final disposition of the body (Holder, Robinson & Laub, 2011).

For what specific findings would you search during your investigation:-

In the scene of investigation, we need to search for various evidences such as any external mark on the body, environment of the scene. We need to collect blood samples and other samples like cloths and other items from the scene. We also need find out whether there is any evidence which indicates the reason of the death or not. It means that if it is a murder then the finding should any mark left by the murderer in the scene. All the findings should be preserved for further examination. Photograph of the body and the scene should be collected and examined properly. Every item should be minutely checked in the investigation scene in order collect all the evidences that can lead to determine the reason of the death.

References

Holder, E., Robinson, L., & Laub, J. (2011). " Death Investigation: A Guide for the Scene Investigator." Retrieved 1 August 2014, from http://www.abmdi.org/documents/death_investigation_guidelines.pdf