



REVISION PROFESSIONAL 2

Should know topics

- Injuries & wounds
- Asphyxia
- Sudden natural death
- Transportation injuries (RTA)
- Firearm injuries



INJURIES OR WOUNDS

- Dr should be able to :
- offer an expert interpretation of his /her findings:
- Able to interpret the findings of diseases or injuries.
- Interpret the nature of injuries (lacerated wound, bruises, incised wound, compound fractures, burns, electric marks, puncture marks, etc.).
- Type of weapons (blunt weapon, sharp weapon, shotgun etc)
- Interpret the severity of the wounds
- According to:
 - - fatal or non
 - - the amount of force
 - - the anatomical locations of the wounds
 - - Law Section 319 & 320 Grievous Bodily Hurt (GBH).

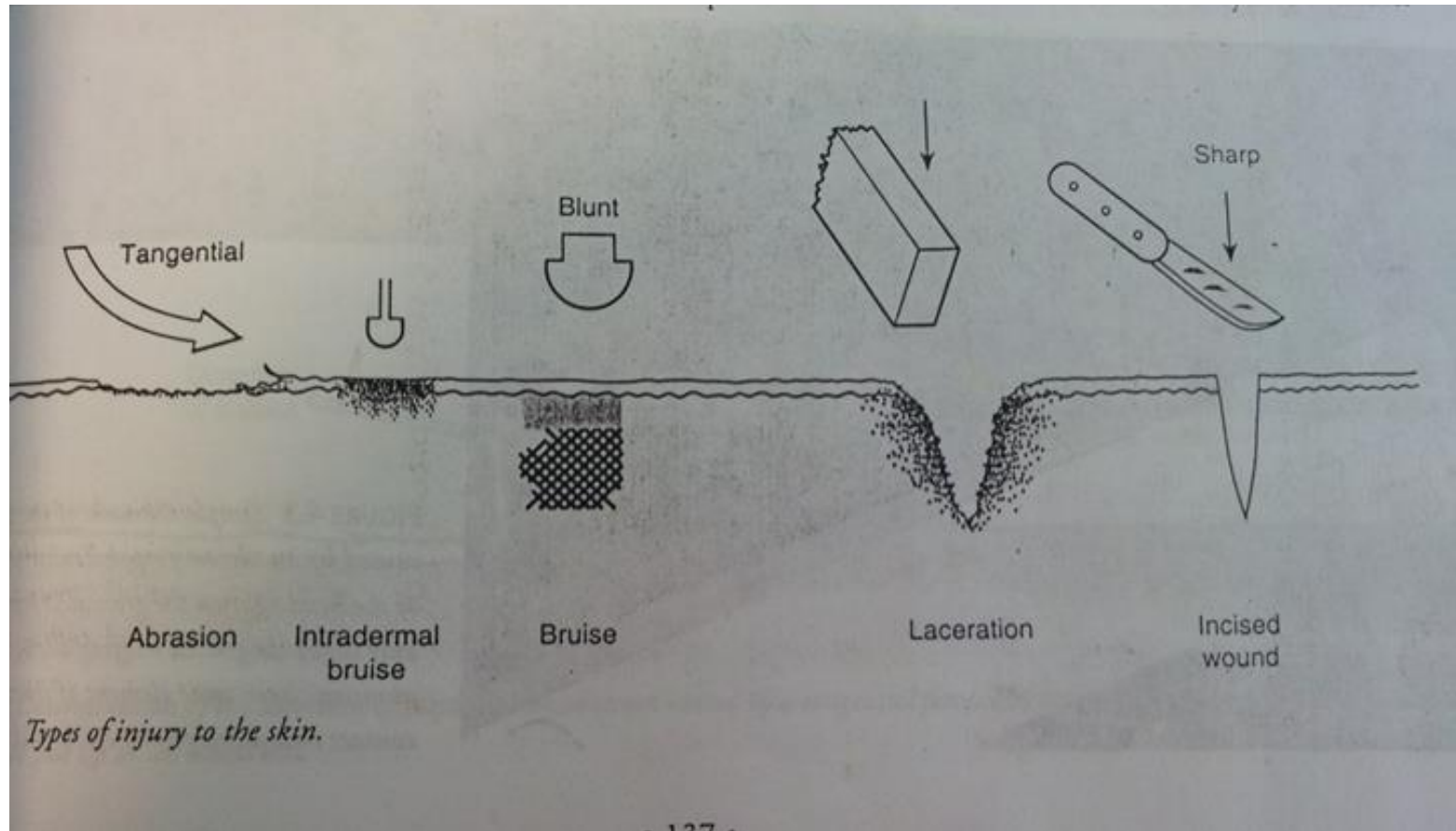
Legal interpretation of the wounds


- - Able to interpret the type of instruments, weapons or object consistent with the wounds.
- - Able to interpret whether the wound was self inflicted, caused by others, or defense wounds.

CLASSIFICATION OF INJURIES

- A. DEPENDING UPON CAUSATIVE FACTOR.
- I. Mechanical or Physical injuries.
- Those caused by blunt force.
- Abrasions
- Lacerations
- Contusions (Bruises)
- Those caused by sharp force.
- Incised wounds
- Stab wounds (puncture)
- sharp punctures
- or
- blunt punctures
- •Caused by Fire Arms.
- • By Rifled Firearms
- • By Smooth Bore Firearms.
- • By country made Firearms.

Mechanism & Types of injury to the skin



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- Abrasion- when blunt force over the skin tangentially
 - Bruises- blunt force directly apply to the skin
 - Abraded bruises- in more force but no skin break
 - Lacerated wd- blunt force over the skin resulting tear- off (coz tearing-- characters appeared)
 - ncised wd- sharp force to the skin caused open skin (clean cut) – if length of inj is greater than depth – incised wound
if depth is greatest-- stabbed wd (sharp & pointed)

Features of lacerated wound

- (1) Edges are ragged (irregular).
 - (2) Always some degree of bruising of edges (marginal bruises).
 - (3) bridging of tissue across the ends
 - (4) If the wound is on a hairy area –pieces of hairs may be embedded in the wound and the hair bulbs are crushed (instead of being cleanly cut)
 - (5) Underlying bone –if fracture, depressed or linear fracture.
 - (6) Bleeding is less profuse.
- ò some degree of bruising and crushing of the margins which release histamine like substances acting as haemostasis, and vessels are crushed instead of cleanly cut.

Features of incised wounds

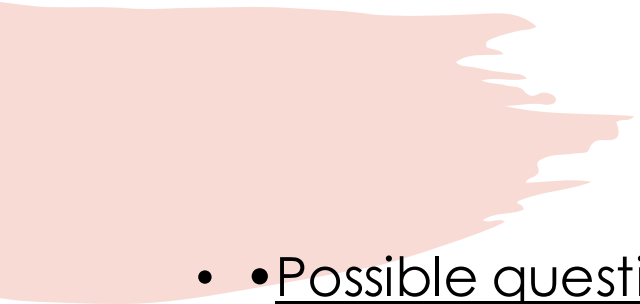
1. Edges are regular (clean cut margins)
2. No bridging of tissues.
3. No bruising at the edges (marginal bruise).
4. Hairs – clean cut.
5. Underlying bone – clean cut fracture.
6. Bleeding – more profuse because vessels are cleanly cut

Document of stab wounds

- Location over the body
- Measurements with anatomical landmark & distance from the heel (injury heel-height)
- Size & shape of the wound, lie(clock wised)
- Associated margin abrasions or bruises
- Direction (wound path)
- Total length of the wound
- Associated wounds such as defence wounds, hesitation wounds

Opinions and inferences regarding to the wounds resulting death

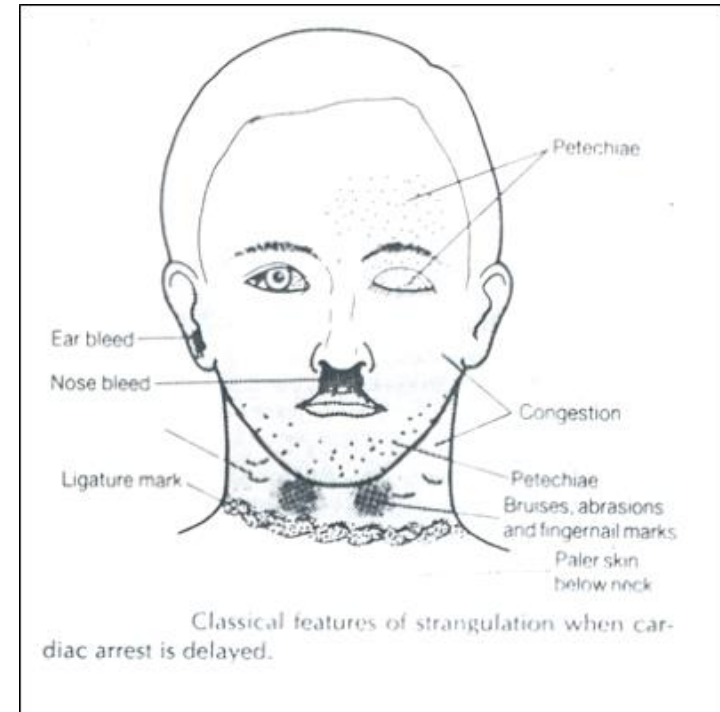
1. What are the possible causes of death
2. Is the wound responsible for death
3. What type of weapon was used
4. What was the amount of force used
5. The position of the victim and the assailant
6. Volition power after injury
7. Was the injury inflicted during life or after death

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- • Possible questions
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 - • Types of mechanical injuries
 - • Mechanism of imprinted abrasion (tramline bruise) & ML importance
 - • Medico-legal importance of abrasion/bruises/lacerated wd/ incised wd/stab wd
 - • Characteristic features of lacerated wound, Incised wd
 - • Difference between bruise & hypostasis
 - • Difference between lacerated wound to incised wound
 - • Difference between homicide & suicide
 - • Opinion regarding injury causing death
 - • Apply knowledge of injury - Expected COD/ Type of injury from observed picture

ASPHYXIA

THE CLASSIC SIGNS OF ASPHYXIA

1. Petechial Hge
2. Congestion
3. Oedema
4. Cyanosis



TYPES of ASPHYXIAL DEATH

1. Suffocation
2. Pressure around the neck _ Hanging
_ Strangulation
3. Drowning
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Types of suffocation

- 1. Entrapment / Environmental suffocation
- 2. Smothering
- 3. Choking
- 4. Mugging
- 5. Deprivation of oxygen (suffocating gases)
- 6. Traumatic asphyxia
- 7. Postural asphyxia/mechanical asphyxia



- **PRESSURE ON THE NECK**

- Three forms of pressure on the neck are of prime forensic importance, namely

1. manual strangulation (or throttling),
2. ligature strangulation and
3. hanging.



- ***Mechanism of death***

- When pressure is applied to the neck the following effects may occur;
- (1) Obstruction of the jugular veins, with impaired venous return of blood from the head to the heart, leading to cyanosis, congestion, petechiae, etc.
- (2) Obstruction of the carotid arteries, causes cerebral ischaemia.
- (3) Stimulation of the baroreceptor nerve endings in the carotid sinuses and carotid sheaths. (vagal inhibition)
- (4) Elevation of the larynx and tongue, closing the airway at pharyngeal level. It is difficult to occlude the airway at laryngeal or tracheal level, due to the rigidity of the strong cartilages unless extreme pressure is applied.