Research Advances in Postmortem Interval Estimation

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Message from the Guest Editors

A forensic pathologist must often estimate the postmortem interval (PMI). The best way of doing this is a major area of contention among forensic pathologists.

Until the dawn of the last century, this activity was based on empirical methods or hurriedly verifying signs, such as livor mortis, rigor mortis, and algor mortis.

Works led by professors Madea and Henssge have made major contributions to PMI estimation. After years of intense study, they developed a nomogram based on the rectal temperature measurement for early (0–24 h) PMI estimation, which is now used in most forensic institutes.

The current issue aims to summarize the available methods for estimating PMI and their possible integration. The methods for validating of new approaches—essential for their use in the Judicial Courts—will also be considered.

Papers related to different fields of forensic sciences will be evaluated, including classical forensic pathology, postmortem biochemistry, forensic genetics, omics sciences (genomics, proteomics, and metabolomics), postmortem imaging, forensic anthropology, and entomology.

Special Issue