

**DEATH DUE TO POSTURAL ASPHYXIA CAUSED BY SEVERE DRUNKENNESS -
CASE REPORT**

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Postural asphyxia is a type of suffocation that occurs when a person remains in a non-physiological position for an extended time, so the abdominal organs pressure on the diaphragm and impaired adequate respiratory movements. (1,2) An autopsy of a male person aged 42 years found beside the road was performed on demand of the investigative authorities'. The body was in an upside-down position with the legs arched over the head and chest. External autopsy findings revealed livid discoloration of the head, neck, shoulders, and chest, as well as minor bruises and abrasions of the scalp and extremities. Internal autopsy examination detected swelling of the brain and lungs, blood stasis in the internal organs, and petechial pleural and pericardial bleeding. Pathohistological examination of the organs revealed blood stasis and cerebral edema. Toxicological-chemical analysis of samples of blood, urine, and vitreous fluid using the technique of "head space" gas chromatography with an ionizing flame detector proved the presence of ethyl alcohol in concentrations: 2.85 mg / mL (2.70 ‰), 44 mg / mL (3.39 ‰), and 3.18 mg / mL (3.16 ‰), retrospectively. It was concluded that the death was violent, resulting from suffocation caused by postural asphyxia in the state of severe drunkenness.

References

1. Pekka S, Knight B. Suffocation and asphyxia. In: Pekka S, Knight B, eds. *Bernard Knight's Forensic Pathology*. 4th ed. New York: Oxford University Press Inc; 2016: 366.
2. Padosch, Stephan A et al. "Death due to positional asphyxia under severe alcoholisation: pathophysiological and forensic considerations." *Forensic science international* vol. 149,1 (2005): 67-73. doi:10.1016/j.forsciint.2004.05.016

SMRT USLED POLOŽAJNE ASFIKSIJE UZROKOVANE TEŠKIM PIJANSTVOM - PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

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Položajna asfiksija je vrsta mehaničkog pritiska disajnih puteva koja nastaje kada osoba duže vreme ostane u nefiziološkom položaju, pa trbušni organi vrše pritisak na dijafragmu i narušavaju respiratorne pokrete (1, 2). Na zahtev istražnih organa izvršena je obdukcija muške osobe starosti 42 godine koja je pronađena na ulici, pokraj puta. Telo je bilo u položaju gore-dole, sa nogama savijenim preko glave i grudi. Spoljašnjim pregledom leša utvrđena je lividna boja glave, vrata, ramena i grudnog koša, kao i manji krvni podlivi kože i oguljotine kože u predelu glave i ekstremiteta. Unutrašnjim pregledom utvrđen je edem mozga i pluća, zastoj krvi u unutrašnjim organima, te petehijalna pleuralna i perikardijalna krvarenja. Patohistološkim pregledom organa utvrđen je zastoj krvi i cerebralni edem. Toksikološko-hemijska analiza uzoraka krvi, urina i tečnosti staklastog tela tehnikom gasne hromatografije "head space" sa detektorom jonizujućeg plamena dokazano je prustvo etil alkohola u sledećim koncentracijama: 2,85 mg/mL (2,70‰), 44 mg/ mL (3,39 ‰) i 3,18 mg / mL (3,16 ‰), redom. Utvrđeno je da je smrt bila nasilna, usled ugušenja zbog posturalne asfiksije u stanju teškog pijanstva.

Literatura

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