

# **Violent Asphyxia**

**Presented**

**By**

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# Learning objectives

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- × Definition
- × •Signs of asphyxia
- × Types of violent asphyxia
- × Smothering
- × Throttling
- × strangulation
- × Hanging
- × Drowning
- × Choking
- × Traumatic asphyxia



# Definition

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**Lack of tissue oxygenation due to failure of respiratory process .**

**Types of asphyxia due to :-**

**Disease – Poisoning - Violence**

**Violent asphyxia**

**Mechanical interference with respiration leading to fatal oxygen lack**

# Signs of asphyxia

## External

**Dark blue hypostasis**

**Deep cyanosis**

**Bulging eyes**

**Sub-conjunctival Hge.**

**Protruded tongue**

**Bloody froth**

## Internal

**Congestion of mucous membranes of air passages**

**Congestion of viscera**

**Dark fluid blood**

**Sub-pleural petechial hge and silvery spots**

# SUB-CONJUNCTIVAL HEMORRHAGE



# PETECHEAL HEMORRHAGE



**Smothering**

**Throttling**

**Strangulation**

**Violent Asphyxia**

**Traumatic**

**Drowning**

**Chocking**

**Hanging**

# Smothering

## Postmortem picture

**General external and signs of asphyxia**

**Nail abrasions around mouth and nose**

**Bruises and contused wounds on inner aspect of lips, cheek and gum with broken teeth**

**Overlaying : accidental smothering**

# Throttling

- ✘ **General external and internal signs of asphyxia**
- ✘ **Semi lunar nail abrasions and bruises on the neck**
- ✘ **Bruises of larynx , trachea, supra and infra-hyoid muscles**
- ✘ **Fracture of hyoid bone and laryngeal cartilages**
- ✘ **Inward fracture of cornu of hyoid bone**



# **BRUISES OF THROTTLING (MANUAL STRANGULATION)**



- General external and internal signs of asphyxia
- Signs of resistance

- Ligature mark (transverse, complete, below larynx)
- Bruises and congestion with laceration of deep neck tissues
- Fracture of hyoid bone and laryngeal cartilages



# Strangulation

# ROPE MARK OF STRANGULATION



# ROPE MARK OF STRANGULATION



# Hangings

## Cause of death

Cerebral anemia

Air passages obstruction

Reflex cardiac inhibition

Fracture and dislocation of  
cervical vertebrae

# ROPE MARK OF HANGING



## **Post mortem picture of hanging**

- General external and internal signs of asphyxia
- Ligature mark (oblique incomplete constriction abrasion above the larynx)
- Hyoid bone fracture (outward)
- Transverse intimal rupture of carotid arteries
- Dribbling of saliva from mouth
- Hypostasis of lower limbs



# Drowning Diagnosis

## External signs

### Probable signs

- Coolness of body
- Goose skin
- Washerwoman skin
- Peeling of epidermis
- Hypostasis

### Sure signs

- Fine white foam
- Cadaveric spasm

## Internal signs

Air passages

lungs

Heart

Stomach

# AIR PASSAGES

Fine white odorless foam



Congestion of mucosa



foreign bodies



Aquatic organism



Pale and balloning lung



sub-pleural petechiae and foam

# Chocking

**Homocidal**

**Accidental**

- Inhalation of Irritant fumes
- Inhalation of Sand and dust
- Impaction of foreign bodies

**Pathological**

# TRAUMATIC ASPHYXIA

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- ✘ **Mechanical compression of**
  - Chest
  - Abdomen
  - Preventing respiratory movements
  
- ✘ **Violet discoloration of**
  - Face
  - Neck
  - Upper part of the body

***Thank you***

***Thank you***



***Thank you***

***Thank you***