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Age Estimation by Depth of Pit at Sternal End of Fourth Ribs in Males-a Quantitative Approach

Doshi Sunil M^{1*}, Doshi Pratik M²¹Assistant Professor, Forensic Medicine Department, Smt. B K Shah Medical Institute and Research Center, Sumandeep Vidyapeeth, Vadodara, Gujarat²Resident Doctor, Department of Pharmacology, M P Shah Government Medical College, Jamnagar, Gujarat

*Corresponding author: Dr. Sunil M Doshi Assistant Professor, Forensic Medicine Department, Smt. B.K. Shah Medical Institute and research center, Sumandeep Vidyapeeth, Vadodara, Gujarat.

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Abstract

Background & Objectives

This study aims to find the relation of pit depth at sternal end of fourth ribs with the age of an individual on a quantitative basis, to find any bilateral variation in the progression of pit depth according to age and to derive regression formulas if applicable.

Materials and Method

The study includes 178 rib samples from 89 male bodies brought for postmortem examination. After processing for removal of cartilaginous part, pit depth was measured at that point where the distance between the base of the pit and the adjacent anterior or posterior wall was greatest. The ribs were scored according to depth of pit and the data were statistically analyzed.

Statistical analysis used

Mean, Standard Deviations, Simple linear regression with R, R Square and Adjusted R Square, Coefficients.

Results & Conclusions

Prediction of age from the pit depth of sternal end of fourth rib is significant. There is no any bilateral variation in the progression of pit depth according to age. Regression formulas have been derived for age prediction from the pit depth which are, $Y = 8.684X + 9.621$ for the left side and $Y = 8.900X + 7.828$ for the right side of the rib ends, where Y= age in years and X= pit depth in mm.

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Keywords

Sternal end of fourth rib; Pit depth; Age.

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