

Computer Tomography (CT): A valuable forensic crime investigation technique

Kapil Verma, Sonal Srivastava and Bhawana Joshi
Amity University, India

CT is a sensitive imaging tool for detecting injuries and cause of death in victims of blunt trauma, in cases of suspicious death. The noninvasive procedure does not damage or destroy key forensic evidence, as can happen during a conventional autopsy. It is used primarily to assist pathologists in determining cause and manner of death but is also invaluable for identification of unknown deceased individuals where traditional methods are not possible. Specific identification features detected on CT included the presence of disease, medical devices and metallic items associated with the remains of individuals. CT was helpful in differentiation of human from non-human remains, recognition of human/animal commingling and human commingling. In some cases gender was able to be determined on CT using a novel technique of genitalia detection. Age range was able to be determined on CT. CT was clearly the most accurate imaging modality in detecting the drug container. "Virtual autopsy" performed with multi detector computed tomography (MDCT) can also aid forensics teams in determining if a person has drowned. The technology is only now generating strong interest within the nation's forensic community.

The outcome of this research has the potential to affect every family in the future, and is a significant contribution to the developing practice of using CT scans instead of autopsies. We are investigating a realistic alternative to the autopsy and are confident we can produce a reliable and cost-effective system which can be used in the future as an alternative to the invasive autopsy."

Biography

Kapil Verma is the student of M. SC forensic science, Amity Institute of Forensic Science(AIFS), Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, (India)-201303. He has completed his B.sc from Punjab Technical University, Punjab(India). He published 7 papers, poster presentations, literature reviews to national, international conferences, symposium, and workshops. Currently he is working on his dissertation topic related to the forensic science.

forensic.kapilalert@gmail.com