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Mass disaster victim identification

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Mass disaster victim identification is a crucial procedure followed in forensics for identifying the victims who succumbed in the disaster. This aspect is important to identify the person for the purpose of recording the death. However, in conditions where the rescue operations are delayed due to any purpose there is high mutilation which renders the person beyond recognition, in cases of disasters due to fire there are no tissues which provide DNA as a source for identification, although dental soft tissue-pulp is protected even at high temperatures. Enamel the hardest structure in the body can withstand upto 1200°C. This tissue can be extripated from the protective covering of tooth by various methods. Following the extripation the DNA in the pulp is replicated to millions of copies in the PCR. This DNA will be matched with the victims antemortem records, or with the DNA of the closest kin. For example in 2004 Tsunami, which lead to death of millions of people, many of the victims in India were not identified as there is minimum awareness amongst the masses about forensic odontology. And due to this, many victims weren't provided a decent funeral. Hence methods which include pulp to identify the person have to be utilised for the identification of victims.

Biography

Neha Bhaveshbhai Kaswala has cleared her final year BDS ranking 5th in the university and is currently doing internship from K M Shah Dental College and Hospital, S V University, Gujarat, India. She has presented an e-poster on veracity of virtual dentistry in international digital dental conference 2016, hyderabad. She has also attended annual world dental congress, FDI 2014. She was awarded with 1st prize for best poster presentation on "Lab diagnosis of Malaria". She was awarded with 2nd prize in table clinics at Gyandeeep 2016, SV University and also attended lecture series by Indian Society of Periodontology.

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