

FORENSIC LITERATURE THESIS

LITERATURE THESIS

Title	: Biochemical interpretation in post-mortem samples
Keywords	: Forensic biochemistry, post-mortem, biochemical disorders
Forensic Expertise Area	: Forensic biochemistry
Department	: Forensic toxicology
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SHORT DESCRIPTION

Biochemical tests are usually performed from living subjects in hospital laboratories, and can be used in forensic laboratories to help to specify the cause of death and its circumstances. However, these determinations (troponins, lactic acid, glucose, ketone bodies,...), usually performed in postmortem blood, urine and vitreous humour, represent a low number of tests in forensic studies.

For this reason, the interpretation of biochemical results in death bodies is not easy, due to the lack of information about the normal parameters, the altered ones related to biochemical disorders, and the ones due to the chemical changes of the body decomposition.

The objective of this thesis is to make a review on postmortem biochemical parameters and its alterations in blood, urine and vitreous samples, remarking on its relationship with cardiovascular and metabolic causes of death. This review may help the interpretation of these results by the forensic doctor.

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REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED EXPERTISE

