

Burnt beyond recognition: the retrieval of post mortem information for victim identification

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ABSTRACT

Background: Following crash events, victims could become severely incinerated to such an extent that scientific verification of their identity becomes extremely difficult. Loss of all visual clues, the degrading of DNA and the fragility of dental information may limit the comparative information available.

Aims: The aims of this presentation is to update methods of; stabilization of dental information at the scene before retrieval, securing and stabilization of the head for transportation.

Content: Testing and the utilization of a non-volatile spray on dental remains has led to successful retention of dental information for identification in South Australia. Data, cases, problems encountered and solutions will be presented