

# Identification of victims charred in the road accident of Puisseguin (France)

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ORAL PRESENTATION

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## ABSTRACT

The present communication shows the value of applying a strict protocol for different phases of charred victims identification.

Whatever the degree of carbonization, it is observed that the dental system is well protected by soft tissues and hard tissues that surrounds him and the teeth have particularly good resistance to fire thanks to their high degree of mineralization. The high temperatures and direct action of the flames, however, have a destructive effect. It follows from these findings that the dental system is the material of choice for the identification of charred victims while in extreme carbonizations the use of DNA analysis became impossible.

Comments carbonization phenomenon have clarified the procedures for identifying charred victims.

Several studies have led to the establishment of a classification of the degrees of carbonization of the head and teeth and the drafting of examination protocols for each degree of carbonization (Georget, Conigliaro and Schuliar – 2014).

the techniques used to preserve the maxillaries, to exam dental arches, to photograph and to radiograph the heads of charred victims are specific to each victim as in the same accident, charring differs with exposing victims to the flames.

After explaining the establishment of appropriate protocols for dental identification of charred bodies in disasters, the authors present the identification work carried out during the Puisseguin (France) road accident on October 23, 2015, which killed 43 people.

Finally, the results reveal that the percentage of dental identifications on the charred victims is high and this type of identification should always be performed in first intention.

Data synthesis was carried out by the Forensic Medicine and Forensic-Odontology Department of the Institute of Criminal Research of the French National Gendarmerie during dental examinations within the Gendarmerie Unit of Disaster Victims Identification at disasters.