

Positive dental identification in charred human remains: case report

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ABSTRACT

Human identification procedures require many conducts that involves a multidisciplinary team with professionals of Dentistry, Medicine, Biology and others. The Dentistry importance is associate with the study of teeth, mainly when the body presents an advanced stage of decomposition, so the fingerprints (that, in Brazil, is civil register for everyone) cannot be obtained. This condition prevents traditional identification and the teeth have the capacity of conservation, contributing considerably to the solution of several cases. The aim was to present a case report about the aspects associated with the identification of charred human remains by dental records. The body was registered as unknown, so medical and dental exams were performed to establish its identity. It was used methods for ante mortem and post mortem comparison by dental records like plaster models, x-rays and palatal rugosae and had a positive identification. In this case, the body was completely carbonized and the identification was possible only by dental records. It was concluded that well-done and preserved ante mortem dental records are fundamental for data comparison, ensuring basement to claim the positive identification or the exclusion.