



# JOURNAL of FORENSIC ODONTO-STOMATOLOGY

VOLUME 31 Supplement 1 October 2013  
Abstract book IOFOS Conference 2013 Firenze

## SEQUELAE OF TORTURE DIRECTED TOWARDS THE ORO-FACIAL REGION MAY BE DIFFICULT TO EVALUATE - CLINICAL FORENSIC ODONTOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF ALLEGED TORTURE VICTIMS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN 1997-2011.

Sara Oladottir Arge\*, Steen Holger Hansen, Niels Lynnerup

\* Master of Science in Dental Surgery (Cand. Odont.), University of Copenhagen, Denmark - Pediatric Dentist at Barnatannrøktin Tórshavnar Kommuna, Torshavn, Faroe Islands. General Dentist at Petri Tannklinik, Torshavn, Faroe Islands.

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

**Background:** Clinical forensic examinations of alleged torture victims have been performed by forensic pathologists at the University of Copenhagen since 1995. In 13,2%/33 of these cases the examinations were supplemented by a forensic odontological clinical examination. In this study the forensic odontological cases from the years 1997-2011 are presented and discussed.

**Methods:** This study includes 33 reports from alleged torture victims (4 females, 29 males) who have been examined by a forensic odontologist at the Copenhagen School of Dentistry in the years 1997-2011. The material available consisted of copies of medical forensic reports and the forensic odontological reports including x-rays. Background data, anamnestic data and results of the forensic odontological clinical examinations were registered as well as the conclusion of the clinical examinations.

**Findings:** The forensic odontological clinical examinations were complicated by the presence of unspecific injuries and various degrees of active oral pathology. In 27 of the cases it was concluded that the findings were consistent with the alleged torture, in six of the cases the findings were concluded to be highly consistent with the alleged torture.

**KEYWORDS:** Forensic Odontology, Torture, Copenhagen.

JFOS. October 2013, Vol.31, Sup.No.1 Pag 12  
ISSN :2219-6749