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FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY: UNDERSTANDING POISONING AND DRUG OVERDOSE CASES

Shashwat Subhash,¹
Dr. Manzoor Khan,²

ABSTRACT

Forensic toxicology is a scientific discipline concerned with the analysis of biological fluids and tissues to detect the presence of drugs and poisons and to determine their role in causing death or injury to the purposes of the law. It is a vital tool in forensic investigations, helping to reconstruct the events leading up to a crime or suspicious death. The results of a forensic toxicology examination can be used to help determine the cause of death, whether someone was impaired by drugs or alcohol at the time of an accident, or whether a person was poisoned. In some cases, the results of a forensic toxicology examination can also be used to exonerate a suspect. In the present article an overview & basic understanding is given on toxicology, poisons, drugs etc. Last, but not least, a special focus on the discussion of poisoning & drug overdose cases in India is provided along with laws relating to them. As new drugs and poisons are developed, forensic toxicologists must develop new methods for detecting them. In addition, medico-legal experts must stay up to date on the latest legal rulings that may affect their work. This comprehensive article is intended as a significant help for toxicologists & lawyers to accomplish their frequently overwhelming mission in understanding poisoning and drug overdose cases.

Keywords: forensic toxicology, forensic investigations, poisoning, drug overdose, toxins, forensic medicine, suspicious death

Forensic Toxicology: Understanding Poisoning and Drug Overdose Cases

¹ LLM (Criminology & Forensic Science), Integral University

² Asst. Professor, Department of Law, Integral University