

Study program: Doctoral Academic Studies in Biomedical Sciences

Name of the subject: CURRENT ISSUES IN FORENSIC MEDICINE

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Status of the subject: elective

Number of ESPB points: 20

Condition: -

Goal of the subject

The aim of this course is to provide students with knowledge and skills to understand and correlate medicine and law in order to provide personal physical and psychological integrity. Legal status of medical practice, ethical and legal responsibility of a physician. Use of acquired knowledge in practice. Development of skills necessary for scientific research.

Outcome of the subject

Practical application of theoretical knowledge. Examination of the deceased, determination of cause, manner and time of death. Identification of the deceased. Examination of injured persons, classification and qualification of injuries. Issuance of medical documents - death certificates and medical reports of injuries. Taking biological samples for purpose of identification and toxicology screening. Use of medical knowledge in trial cases. Understanding the principles of causation - complex relations between primary cause (injury or disease), course of injury or disease along with all possible complications, and final consequences (complete or incomplete recovery vs. death).

Content of the subject

Theoretical lectures

1. Brief history of forensic medicine. Concept and tasks of forensic medicine. Forensic medicine in relation to other medical and academical branches, primarily law. 2. Forensic expert, legal provisions and basics of medicolegal expertise. Legal provisions and medical criteria. Expertise in criminal cases and civil litigation. 3. Dying and death, terms and definitions. Forensic classification of death. Concept of brain death. Medicolegal aspects of transplantation. 4. Medicolegal aspects of fertility regulation and family planning. 5. Legal aspects of cloning and genetical engineering. Medicolegal aspects of stem cell use. 6. Domestic violence.7. Legal status of medical practice. Moral, material and criminal liability. Medicolegal aspects of medical interventions. 8. Ethyl alcohol – forensic aspects. Drug addiction. Opioids, psychostimulants, hallucinogens. 9. Clinical forensic medicine. Concept, subjects and goals.

Practical lectures

1. Institute of Forensic Medicine - introduction to basic fields of work. 2. Medicolegal expertise (findings, discussion and conclusion) of court files. Elements of analysis and synthesis. Relevant findings in reports, forensic issues and reports. 3. Forensic expertise in civil proceedings (pain, fear, etc.). 4. Legal aspects of artificial insemination. 5. Legal issues of extracorporal conception. 6. Forensic aspects of DNA analysis. 7. General principles of physician responsibility.8.Violation of humanitarian principles. 9. Medicolegal investigation and patient rights. 10. Medicolegal aspects of anesthesia, surgical procedures, reanimation and fluid resuscitation. 11. Medicolegal aspects of transplantation. 12. Chemical and toxicology laboratory: GC, GC/MSD, HPLC and UV spectrophotometrics use in forensic chemistry. 13. External examination of injured and medicolegal documentation issuing according to International Classification of Diseases 10 - ICD 10.

Recommended literature

Compulsory

- 1. DiMaio D, DiMaio VJ. Forensic pathology (Practical Aspects of Criminal and Forensic Investigations), second Edition. CRC press, 2001.
- 2. Mason JK. Forensic medicine (an illustrated reference). Chapman and Hall medical, 1993.

Number of active classes	Theory: 60	Practice: 45
Teaching methods: Lectures including PowerPoint presentations; Practical work; Seminary work; Court files analysis. Medical		
reports and death certificates.		

Evaluation of knowledge (maximum number of points 100) lecture activity: 20 seminary work: 5 SRW: 30 points written exam: 15 oral exam: 30