**Asphyxia  
Team Notes 428**

Myasthenia Gravis may cause anoxic anoxia.

**Stages of asphyxia:**

1. Reversible stage of dyspnea.
2. Reversible stage of convulsions: convulsions happen because of high levels of CO2 which causes extraordinary stimulation of the respiratory center.

The best sit to see petechial hemorrhage is on the conjunctiva because it is white.

1. Irreversible respiratory paralysis (apnea)

Asphyxia is a mechanism not a cause of death, there might be a lot of causes e.g. anesthetics, antipsychotic, morphine, pneumonia…etc.

**External PM features of asphyxia include:**

-Fast RM

-Fast putrefaction

-dark blue color

**Violent asphyxia death:**

Hanging is mostly suicidal.

Ligature strangulation is homicidal.

**Hanging:**

1. complete
2. Partial: the cause of death could be due to pressure on the carotid which causes arrhythmia or due to vagal reflux.

Rope marks of hanging are incomplete, high up, and oblique.

Rope marks of strangulation are complete, low down, and transverse.

The most depressed area will be the area against the knot.

**Mechanism of death:**

Judicial hanging causes fracture to the cervical vertebrae C2 & C3.

If the person is obese the cause of death will be occlusion of the arteries (cerebral anoxia).

**Drowning:**

People who drown in fresh water die faster than those who drown in the salt water because the cause of death is cardiac arrhythmia.

In all types of asphyxia and drowning the spleen will be contracted.

**MCQs:**

1. Compressing the neck by the bend of the elbow is :

A) Mugging. \*\*\*\*

B) Bansdola.

C) Burking.

D) Choking

2. Elimination of volatile poisons through the lungs by inhalation:

A) 100% O2.

B) 95% O2 & 5% CO2.\*\*\*\*

C) 90% O2 & 10% CO2.

D) 85% O2 & 15% CO2.

E) 80% O2 & 20% CO2.

3. The petechial hemorrhage of asphyxia is easily seen in:

A) Heart

B) Lung

C) Eye

D) sclera\*\*\*\*

4. Mechanism of Petecheal formation in asphyxia is:

A) Rise in venous pressure.\*\*\*\*

B) Rise in Arterial pressure.

C) Rise in capillaries pressure.

D) Rise in Arterioles pressure.

5. Strangulation rope marks is:

A) low-down in the neck.\*\*\*

B) Oblique in position.

C) Incomplete.

D) Caused by rope.

E) A pressure abrasion.

6. A significant sign of asphyxia is:

A) ill-defined hypostasis.

B) Rapid rigor mortis. \* \*\*

C) Skin hemorrhage.

D) pale lungs.

7.café coronary is a term which describes:

A) coronary heart attack occurring in a café

B) choking by a bolus of food\*\*\*

C) heammorrhage in the corona radiate

D) coronary embolism with café au lait

E) coronary thrombosis due to chest trauma

8.the most common cause of inward fracture of hyoid bone is:

A) hanging

B) smothering

C) throttling\*\*\*

D) strangulation

E) choking

9. cerebral anaemia is the most common cause of death from ( I think it

have the same meaning of cerebral anoxia):

A) Hanging\*\*\*

B) Strangulation

C) Smothering

D) Shocking

E) Drowning

10.throttling:

asphyxia by hand

11.froth in putrification:

رائحة معفنة

12.Fastest mechanism of death is:

vagal inhibition

13. Strangulation rope marks is:

low down in the neck

14.Throttling

constricting the neck by the hand

15.Choking bolus of food

16. Cafe coronary bolus of food obstructs the larynx

17.Sure external signs in Drowning:

Cadaveric spasm

18.Strangulation rope marks:

a.Low down in the neck\*\*\*

b.Oblique in position

c.incomplete

d. caused by rope

19. A significant sign of asphyxia is :

a-Defined hypostasis

b-Rapid rigor mortis \*\*\*because of convulsion, it comes early

c- Skin hemorrhage

d-Pale lungs

20. man died in closed room because of burn after 4 hours ... the mechanism of death :

A) neurogenic shock

B) co inhalation\*\*\*

21. Compressing the neck by the bend of the elbow-is :

(A) Mugging. \*\*\*

(B) Bansdola.

(C) Burking.

(D) Choking.

22. In judicial hanging, fracture of vertebral column is usually seen between :

(A) C1andC2.

(B) C2 and C3. \*\*\*

(C) C4andC5.

(D) C5 and C6.

big thanks to: Hala Al-Rugaib

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