



Hybrid CME Cum Workshop,
Saturday December 10, 2022
**Department of Forensic Medicine, SNMC, Agra &
GLAFIMS ASSOCIATION**
(Non-Government Organization)(CIN No: 157354)



Date of Submission	05-12-2022
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Topic	Review on homicide by combination of asphyxial methods
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Date of Acceptance	Tuesday December 6, 2022

Review on homicide by a combination of asphyxial methods

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Abstract:

The term asphyxia indicates a mode of dying,rather than a cause of death.It is a condition caused by interference with respiration,or due to lack of oxygen in respired air,due to which the organs and tissues are deprived of oxygen causing unconsciousness or death.The brain weight is about 1.4% of body weight, but it uses 20% of total available oxygen.As per the rule of thumb breathing stops within twenty seconds of cardiac arrest,and heart stops within twenty minutes of breathing.Reduction in oxygen tension causes capillary dilatation which is followed by stasis of blooding the dilated capillaries and venues,which causes capillo-venous engorgment.It include vicious cycle of congestion, cyanosis and petechial hemorrhages.Petechial haemorrhage knows as tradieu spots are most marked where for mechanical reasons,capillary congestion is most prominent. Their distribution lies above the level of obstruction in strangulation cases,but in long standing hanging cases also, these can be seen.They are produced by simple mechanical obstruction to the venous return of blood from parts ,resulting in acute rise in venous pressure and overdistension and rupture of thin walled peripheral venues,especially in lax and,unsupported tissues,such as forehead, skin behind ears,eyelids,circumoral skin etc.Sometimes the findings are not sufficient to use an accurate term,and the cause of death has to be given within a broadframe work,such as "consistent with asphyxia".

Keywords: Congestion, cyanosis, tradieu spots