


University of Niš Faculty of Medicine	Study program: INTEGRATED ACADEMIC STUDIES OF MEDICINE <i>ACCREDITATION 2018</i>	
Course: Corpse examination and determination of the cause of the death		
Course head: Prof. dr Goran Ilić		
Course status:	Elective	
Semestar: X	Study year: V	
ECTS: 3	Course code: M-V-44.j	
Course purpose:		
To improve knowledge about medical criteria for determining death and the quality of the corpses examination in terms of more accurate determination of the time and cause of the death and good proposal of a forensic-medical autopsy.		
Course outcome (knowledge, skills, attitudes)		
Completed knowledge and skills of a doctor for performing a direct corpse examination, more precisely and more exact resolution of the problem of distinguishing between natural and violent death, unknown natural death, and the importance and expediency of performing a forensic-medical autopsy.		
Number of classes of active teaching: 45		
Lectures: 15	Practice: 30	
Course content		
About death in general (clinical, biological, cellular, brain death) and cadaveric organ transplantation; Manner of death: natural and violent, unknown, and suspicious natural death; Medical criteria for determining death and thanatological signs of death; Coroner's office and coroner's service; Types of autopsies, obligation, conditions and indications for performing autopsies, their scientific, medical and public health importance; Current legal procedure, possible omissions and consequent liability of health care providers, institutions and doctors in connection with the determination of death; Methodology of ascertaining death; Technique of corpse examination in a health institution; The technique of corpse examination outside of health institutions (mortuary); Methodology of preparation of medical documentation on the determination of death (death certificate, certificate for the transport of a corpse, request for autopsy); Communication with family members of the deceased person and others persons who have the right to be notified (judicial authorities, police); Improving the cooperation of doctors who determine death with investigative organs in order to speed up disclosure of perpetrators of criminal acts, identification of corpses of unknown persons, registration of deaths from unknown or quarantine diseases.		
Active teaching:		
1. Lectures		Number of classes
1.	Death in general (clinical, sudden, biological, cellular, brain death); Manner of death: natural and violent, unknown and suspicious natural death	1
2.	Medical criteria for determining death	1
3.	Signs of death	1
4.	Signs of death - continued	1
5.	Determining the time of death	1
6.	Technique of corpse examination	1
7.	Medical documentation on examination of deceased persons	1
8.	Medical documentation on examination of deceased persons - continued	1
9.	Types of autopsies: General and Special autopsies	1
10.	Obligation, conditions, and indications for performing autopsies; Scientific, medical, and public health significance of autopsies	1
11.	Cadaveric transplantation	1
12.	Current legal issues related to the determination of death	1
13.	Responsibility of health workers and institutions with determining death and performing autopsies	1

14.	Coroner's Office: cooperation with health institutions, legal authorities, and police	1
15.	The degree of agreement of the causes of death determined by the autopsy, clinical examination, and examination of the deceased person	1
	Total hours:	15
2. Exercises		Number of classes
1.	Methodology of ascertaining death	4
2.	Technique of corpse examination in a health institution	3
3.	Technique of corpse examination outside a health care institution (mortuary examination)	3
4.	Methodology of preparation of medical documentation on determining death (death certificate, certificate for the transport of a corpse, request for autopsy)	3
5.	Communication skills with family members of the deceased person and other persons who have the right to be notified (legal authorities, police, social services)	3
6.	Cooperation of doctors who determine death with investigative bodies to speed up disclosure of perpetrators of criminal acts, identification of corpses of unknown persons, registration of death by unknown persons or quarantine diseases...	3
7.	Determining the cause of death by examining the deceased person	3
8.	Determining the cause of death by autopsy	4
9.	The degree of agreement of the causes of death determined by the autopsy, clinical examination, and corpse examination	4
	Total hours:	30
Recommended literature:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Saukko P, Knight B. Knight's Forensic Pathology, Fourth Edition. CRC Press, Boca Raton, 2013. Jason Payne-James. Simpson's Forensic Medicine 20th Edition. CRC press, 2020. 		
Teaching methods:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentations Individual teaching Interactive teaching An essay Consultations 		
Required previously passed exams:		
None		
Grade		
Pre-exam obligations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity during class: 0 - 10 points An essay: 0 - 30 points Practical exam: – 20 points 		
Final exam		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oral exam: 0 – 40 points 		