



Accidental strangulation by a hot belt: An occupational medico-legal case report

M Arun¹, RG Hemanth Kumar², GN Pramod Kumar¹,
HV Chandrakanth¹, KR Nagesh³ and Ritesh G Menezes⁴

Abstract

Death due to strangulation is generally considered homicidal unless proved otherwise. Here a case of accidental strangulation by a faulty machine is presented and discussed where the deceased was strangled by a heated rubber belt of a rice mill machine. The ligature mark was an assortment of abrasion and dermo-epidermal burns. The term “thermal ligature strangulation” is proposed for such an occurrence.

Keywords

Occupational, accident, burns, compression of the neck, machine, strangulation, medico-legal autopsy

¹Department of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology, JSS Medical College, JSS University, Mysore, India

²Department of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology, SDM College of Medical Sciences and Hospital, Dharwad, India

³Department of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology, Father Muller Medical College, Mangalore, India

⁴Department of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology, ESIC Medical College & PGIMS (Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India), Bangalore, India

Corresponding author:

Dr. Ritesh G Menezes, Professor & Head, Department of Forensic Medicine, ESIC Medical College & PGIMS, Bangalore 560010, India.
Email: mangalore971@yahoo.co.in