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ATYPICAL MULTIPLE STAB INJURIES – A CASE REPORT

Gunathilake K.M.T.B.¹, Ranasinghe C.E.², Vidanapathirana M.³

¹Consultant Judicial Medical officer, ²Postgraduate Trainee, Provincial General Hospital, Ratnapura, ³Professor, Department of Forensic Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

INTRODUCTION

The usual weapons of stab injuries are knives, daggers, criss knives etc. These injuries could be due to a large range of pointed weapons and they can produce different atypical stab injuries. Sometimes, weapon is not available at the time of the autopsy, but when giving evidence, the weapon is shown and request to give opinion regarding the causative weapon.

CASE HISTORY

Elderly woman was found dead with multiple stab injuries inside a house. At autopsy examination, there were 2 types of stabs. One was appeared as single injury on the body surface, but a paired stab somewhat oblique to each other (V shaped) was found inside the body. Along the upper margin of one injury, there was a small semi-circular defect of the skin.

The other type was paired stab injuries. There were 2 paired stab injuries. Paired stabs somewhat oblique to each other (V shaped) were separated with a septum. The police produced a knife as the weapon.

CONCLUSIONS

When the weapon is not available, the JMO has to reconstruct the causative weapon based on the findings while considering the possible differential diagnoses. V shaped paired stabs were compatible with a weapon which could be opened inside the body. Presence of single injury on the body surface with a paired stab inside the body were compatible with full penetration of the weapon. In this case, the possible causative weapon was a scissor.