Herein lies a brief of the achievements and ongoing projects of KUSOM Forensic Medicine. You may reach to the details from:

medicine.ku.edu.tr

Viewer discretion is advised.

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Our founder of KUSOM Forensic Medicine professor, who is interested more in health law, medicolegal topics, drownings, and diatoms; has been portraying the conductor of our symphony orchestra in KUSOM forensic medicine department. Thanks to him, our department is evolving and rejuvenating day-by-day since its establishment.

Our Bases

Our bases consist of -not limited to- morgue, autopsy room, outpatient clinic, history taking rooms, etc.

Being a department of both the alive patients and those who have passed away, we provide the contemporary facilities to all those who have been a part of the world.

We are to benefit from our bases to their full-capacities after we meet with our residents next semester.

Entrust me to Turkish physicians.

-M. K. Atatürk
"We can all see, but can you observe?"

Curriculum

Our 5-day curriculum is soon to be 10 days long. It consists of:

- Legal responsibilities of physicians
- Basics of death
- Filling up a death form
- Forensic identification and medical autopsy
- Turkish Penal Code and wounds
- Aphyxia & Drowning
- Sexual assault
- Child abuse and domestic violence

The preference is to make the future physicians taste the essence of state-of-the-art methods and applications in forensic sciences and forensic medicine, exclusively.

Here are some samples of our course material showing artificial reconstruction of a crime scene, diatoms - simply an indicator of drowning, crime scenes, and medical autopsy.
Bolam (4D) Test is used to conclude if a case is malpractice or not. 4D are: damage, duty, deviation from scientific course, and direct cause between the act and the consequence. After the Forensic Medicine course, all of the students are capable of conducting this test in each case they encounter.

Achievements

Having the curriculum finished, future physicians become eligible to be leaders in such areas: reporting child abuse, sexual assault, violence especially workplace violence “White Code”; declaration of death and reporting it; gathering informed consent exclusively in pediatrics; administering the flow of a patient complaint; and health administration in general and also, in pandemic setting.

Chance favors the prepared mind.

- Louis Pasteur
“Bullet” Points

In the era of pandemics and unfortunate military events, the need for the forensic sciences increased nearly more than ever. In addition to this increased demand, the chronic issues—for instance sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse, medico-legal responsibilities of physicians and death notifications—persist.

In our current curriculum, we try to reach out the students by giving more than the basics of such topics.

Our case-based learning methods with interactive sessions are shaped and continue to be shaped according to the feedbacks of former students. With the help of this flexibility, we try to break the concrete walls of the autocracy of old forensic medicine (which itself is a misnomer for forensic sciences in our country).
Consultations

In the off-lecture times, we are conducting legal expert witnessing with our consultant team. This team integrates: psychiatry; neurology; emergency in "White Code" and forensic reporting cases; pediatrics and pediatric psychiatry-in child abuse and/or neglect cases; chief hospital administration-in medicolegal cases and patient complaint management; oncology-in end-of-life care patients; hematology; anesthesiology and reanimation and cardiology-in several cases including hair graft death, which are popular in press currently-departments. We have come together and fortunately kept it together. Now, we are working together.

Our facilities have the chance to conduct interrogations/history taking in mirrored rooms and have a simulated course in which cross examinations can be conducted. Using this potential, we are now accepting cases from the law courts. It is important to note that, our cases tend to be more challenging which have been already seen by several other facilities yet lacking a conclusion and nearly all of them being popular in the press.

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."-Henry Ford

We are grateful for Istanbul University Forensic Medicine professors who have been helping in the founding process of our department. On behalf of the countless professors, we appreciate Sadik Toprak, M.D. who has been, also, aiding us in consultations.

One of our multidisciplinary projects conducted with Police Department aiming to find ballistics trajectories and gunshot residues.
Our Ring: Forensic Sciences

The multidisciplinary approach showed its importance more in the millenial era where the communication is a lot easier. In this technological period, there is no reason to further disintegrate the topics of forensic sciences such as teaching and focusing on only the forensic medicine.

We, now, provide an elective on forensic psychiatry as a beginning. This is one of the first hits to forge our ring.

One ring to rule them all.

- J.R.R. Tolkien

Our ongoing projects try to integrate other areas of the forensic sciences such as physics, chemistry, artificial intelligence, jurisprudence, engineering, and questioned documents.

One of our current projects is the prediction of the neurodegenerative disease stage by the use of artificial intelligence assessing the handwritings of a person.

Other than this promising R&D project, we are working on hot topics of the daily life issues (e.g., workspace violence in healthcare, risk minimization of monitoring in radiological imaging, etc.)
We are so close yet too far to establish a proper forensic sciences team in our School of Medicine.

We are proud to know our cons—which are rooted mainly from the cultural and professional background of our country—, and eager to lyse them in our zealous endeavor.

Having projects in artificial intelligence, online education, forensic technology, and unifi-
ing the forensic sciences is our passion for a brighter future.

“Life is eternal; it is a perpetual renewal of birth and growth.” - Emile Zola
We Are Here Also in After Life

Other than our clinical experiences in the livings, we are also the experts of those who passed away. With our state-of-the-art equipments and facilities, we are happy to transfer our knowledge of the essentials of post-mortem examinations.

Thanks for your kind interest in our brief catalog of forensic medicine achievements and future plans.

Being a relatively young department, makes us more energetic and enthusiastic rather than immature. As they say “You can’t teach an old dog a new trick.” We are to learn and derive new tricks to contribute and shape forensic sciences which is the most rapidly evolving science.

For further information you may contact us via: cyorulumaz@ku.edu.tr and/or gayas17@ku.edu.tr

“The sky is not the limit. Your mind is.”

-Marilyn Monroe