



## THE COLLEGES OF MEDICINE OF SOUTH AFRICA

Incorporated Association not for gain  
Reg No 1955/000003/08

Final Examination for the Fellowship of the  
College of Forensic Pathologists of South Africa

26 February 2018



Paper 1

(3 hours)

*All questions are to be answered. Each question to be answered in a separate book (or books if more than one is required for the one answer)*

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- 1 A 42-year-old male collapses and dies during a marathon race. Discuss your approach to the post mortem examination. [25]
- 2 A 2-year-old child receives aspirin as treatment for a fever associated with a viral respiratory infection. The child is subsequently admitted to hospital and diagnosed with Reye syndrome. She dies in hospital
  - a) Briefly outline the legal framework in South Africa in terms of the performance of THIS post mortem examination. (7)
  - b) Describe the aetiology and microscopic appearance of the affected organs in this case. (8)[15]
- 3 Discuss the clinical presentation, post-mortem findings and forensic pathological significance of fat embolism syndrome. [15]
- 4 Write short notes on
  - a) "Dry drowning". (5)
  - b) Cadaveric spasm. (5)
  - c) Death presumably as a result of exposure to pepper spray. (5)[15]
- 5 A child was found dead near an illegal electrical connection
  - a) Write short notes on your approach to the case and the possible post mortem findings. (8)
  - b) Discuss the mechanisms of death in electrocution. (7)[15]
- 6 A young rugby player dies suddenly after a blow to the side of the neck. Discuss your approach to this case, including possible post mortem findings and sample collection. [15]



FC For Path(SA) Part II

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Paper 2

(3 hours)

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- 1 Give a clear exposition of the medico-legal management of a case of a skeleton exposed during excavation on a construction site with reference also to all the relevant statutes. [25]
- 2 Explain the possible mechanisms of injury in a mine worker killed in an underground explosion. [15]
- 3 Briefly discuss the current application of post mortem biochemistry in the diagnosis of
  - a) Anaphylaxis / anaphylactoid reactions. (5)
  - b) Drowning. (5)
  - c) Sepsis. (5)[15]
- 4 Briefly discuss the classification of procedure related deaths. [15]
- 5 A psychiatric patient dies without any history that may be helpful to determine the cause of death. The autopsy findings are also negative, including toxicology. Write notes on the possible causes of deaths in this patient. [15]
- 6 A patient known with DM dies suddenly and unexpectedly. Discuss your approach to the detection of the cause and mechanism of death, with reference to the history, autopsy findings, histopathology findings and ancillary investigations. [15]