decisions. Questions pertinent to the tasks. Advantages: 1. It allows the student to carry out controlled activities in which he must apply to specific situations both the knowledge he possesses and, in this way, to secure them and acquire others, such as to put into practice a series of basic and procedural skills related to the subject matter Study that would not be possible to develop in other modalities. 2. It facilitates the training in the resolution of concrete problems and establishes a first connection with the reality and with activities that arise in the professional work. 3. Depending on its typology and approach, both self-employment and group work are promoted. Inconveniences to consider: 1. Organizational issues, it is necessary to have groups that work simultaneously. 2. It requires specific spaces, adequate equipment and auxiliary personnel. 3. The planning and evaluation of students' work and activities are an extra task for the teacher. 4. When dealing with activities developed in controlled environments and linked to a subject, artificial situations arise. **Conclusion:** In this type of practical classes, in addition to the characteristics common to all of them, in terms of their organization and development, they usually have a certain peculiarity in terms of their programming since they can be developed in sessions of several hours. The common characteristics is the formation of groups of medium or small size require the presence of the teacher and the students working in unison. Competence in basic academic knowledge related to the forensic sciences, with the intervention of juridical concepts, notions of criminology, tanatology, entomology and lesionology, is acquired, specific skills are acquired at each stage of the process. It is important to emphasize the incentive to interpersonal communication, to the organization and personal management; to the generation of attitudes, values of development and professional commitment.

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## **ANIMAL CRUELTY IN CAT: CASE REPORT**

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Acts of cruelty against animals are considered a crime according to the Environmental Crimes Law, art. 32 (BRASIL, 1998). Abuse of cats is common and is practiced mainly by intentional exogenous intoxication and also by traumas (MARLET; MAIORKA, 2010; SIQUEIRA et al., 2012), in which blunt injuries are the most commonly observed (MUNRO; MUNRO, 2008; MCEWEN, 2012; CUEVAS et al., 2016). Forensic veterinary pathology is extremely important in cases of animal cruelty, not only to determine the animal's cause of death, but also to help to differentiate between accidental and non-accidental lesions (MERCK et al., 2013). This is an important tool of forensic veterinary medicine, due to the legal potential of these types of cases. Therefore, this study aims to describe the lesions found in a cat killed in a cemetery, called "Cemitério da Saudade", in Ribeirão Preto/SP, Brazil, with suspected abuse. A female, uncastrated, mixed breed cat and black

hair was found dead in the "Cemitério da Saudade", located in the city of Ribeirão Preto/SP, Brazil. The municipal institution responsible for animal welfare sent the animal's carcass to necropsy, after a series of episodes that resulted in the death of 27 cats within less than a month (June / 2016). According to information published in the media (News, magazines promoted by the city or by the capital of the state), the animals were found without organs (heart or lung), with the thorax opened, without the thoracic and/or pelvic limbs or without the head. At necropsy, the feline presented cyanotic oral, ocular and vulvar mucosae, presence of blood in the left nostril, and multiple lacerated and reddish cutaneous lesions located in the ventral cranial region of the scapula (2.0 x 1.0cm), in ventral cervical region (3.5 x 0.8cm), close to the right caudal thoracic  $(1.0 \times 0.3 \text{ cm})$  and right lateral thoracic region  $(5.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm})$ 0.6cm). At the initial incision of the carcass, extensive subcutaneous hematomas were located in the ventral cervical regions (9.5 x 9.0cm) and extended throughout the dorsal cervical region, as well as, from the first to the fourth right ribs and from the first to the third left ribs. Rib's fractures presence was associated with subcutaneous tissue and intercostal muscles hematomas. In the musculature adjacent to the sternum were noted extensive hematomas, also observed in the abdominal wall, with multifocal distribution and associated with local laceration of the musculature. There was evisceration of the omentum in these areas, which was covered with crude blood clots. In the thoracic cavity was noted discrete hemothorax and there was an extensive hematoma in trachea and esophagus external wall. The lungs had multiple reddened areas (hemorrhage), located in the cranial and caudal lobes. At skull opening, hematoma was noted in the musculature of the occipital and left parietal region. After muscle tissues removal, a fracture was noted in the bones of the skull in the same regions. The encephalon presented congestive vessels and multifocal hemorrhage in the meninges. The lesions observed in this case report are classified as blunt injuries. Blunt lesions, according to Vanrell (2009) are provoked by a forceful instrument able of promoting continuity solutions and lacerations, of moderate extension, in soft tissues, blood vessels, viscera and osteoarticular structures. In general, these lesions are caused by pressure, compression, decompression, distension, twisting, dragging or in a mixed manner and suffer an incredible variation (COUTO, 2011). Contused wounds cause less bleeding comparing to other type of lesions, such as incisional wounds, since the compression induced by the method or instrument, crushes vessels' lumen, causing a traumatic hemostasis and hematomas (SILVEIRA, 2012). An investigation performed between the year of 1998 and 2012, by FMVZ – USP's (SP) Veterinary Pathology Service, with cats victims of animal cruelty, was verified that in 54% of the cases the lesions were caused by blunt force trauma (SIQUEIRA et al., 2012). In cases of animal cruelty suspicion, it is imperative to perform a detailed and documented necropsy, characterizing the lesions found and ascertaining the animal's cause of death. The veterinary pathologist plays an extremely important role in the field of forensic veterinary medicine, from the analysis of the evidence of a crime to the preparation of a necropsy report, considered as crucial proof in juridical cases.

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## INJURIES IN A DOG ASSOCIATED WITH A PERFURO-CUTTING INSTRUMENT: CASE REPORT

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Legal veterinary medicine or forensic veterinary medicine is a specialty recognized by resolution nº 756/2003 of Veterinary Medicine Federal Council, which deals with the application of veterinary medicine knowledge for the purposes of law and justice (ARNS; REIS, 2011). This resolution is not recent, and it has been established in the Brazilian constitution since 1933, describing that in judicial issues involving animals as an exclusive veterinarian function (SABES; GIRARDI; VASCONCELOS, 2016). However, there are few veterinarians working in this field, leaving space to other professionals and leading to a lack of scientific material production (REGO, 2003; MERCK, 2007). Forensic traumatology is the branch of legal medicine that studies the injuries caused by materials or moral nature, harmful to the body, physical or mental health (CROCE; CROCE JÚNIOR, 1998). The lesions are divided into mechanical, physical, chemical, physicochemical and biodynamic energies (DEL CAMPO, 2009). The mechanical action energies act on the body and modify its state of rest or movement, resulting in injury. They can act in different ways according to the agents who carry them. The lesions can be produced by the action of the instrument on the body, by the action of the body on the instrument or by a combination of then, when one acts on the other (DEL CAMPO, 2009). The instruments that cause the lesions, according to the contact surface, the mode of action and the characteristics of the lesions generated are classified as: simple action (perforating or puncturing, sharp and forceful) and composite action (piercing, piercing and punctuating) (DEL CAMPO, 2009). Lesions generated by perforating mechanical energies result in a linear path continuity solution with an exit orifice of smaller diameter than the input. Cutting instruments cause incised lesions that have greater depth at the original point, smooth and regular margins. Blunt instruments can generate different types of injuries: ecchymosis and hematoma, excoriation, brain concussion and contusion, bone contusion, bone fractures, dislocations and sprains. Sharpening instruments cause puncture incisional lesions are deeper than wide, the shape and the course of the lesion allow to define which instrument was used. These instruments generate puncture-related injuries, such as those generated by firearm projectiles. Shortterm injuries are called short-cuts and act by pressure exerted on a line and are influenced by the weight action of the instrument used or by the force of the person who manipulated it (SABES; GIRARDI; VASCONCELOS, 2016). This paper aims to report a case of sharp injury in a dog, and the importance of veterinary medicine expertise to elucidate cases of mistreatment against animals. The corpses of a 10-year-old male dog was referred for necropsy examination and, according to the owner, the dog had free access to the street. The animal was in good condition, and received treatment with Phenobarbital until the day before the death. The animal was found in lateral decubitus and agonizing in front of neighbor's house, it was also noticed several cuts and accentuated amount of blood flowing through the nostrils. In the necroscopic examination, it was noticed pale oral, ocular and penile mucosa, a focal area of excoriation in the abdomen, and left flank of 8.0cm in length. In addition, several puncture-sharp lesions were observed, two parallel to the right thoracic region and measuring 0.5cm in diameter. The other two were