

LATENT LIP PRINT, A TOOL IN CRIME INVESTIGATION

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Abstract

Introduction - Fingerprints are the most common means of identification in crime scene investigations. There are different physical and chemical methods that enable locating and developing latent lip prints relying on sweat and body oils which have been transferred from the body to an object react with a number of reagents to become visible.

Aim

The aim of the study was to study visible and latent lip print pattern by comparing them on common biological material found at the crime scene and determine the effectiveness of the technique.

Material and Methods

The study comprised of 50 students. The students were asked to rub both the lips on a bond sheet and glass slab after applying a dark-coloured lipstick followed by sprinkling a small quantity of black powder on it.

Results

When lip prints were compared between latent lip print and lip stick print, 34 % lip prints matched and 66% lip prints did not matched.

Conclusion - Every individual has a unique lip print. Latent lip prints are reliable practical method for crime scene investigation.

Key Words

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