

First issue of the series “*Forensic Medicine Institutes Journal*”

The *Journal of Forensic Medicine* will change from 2014 and will consist of 6 series covering all areas of our discipline.

We are pleased to present the first issue of series A “*Forensic Medicine Institutes Journal*” which we hope will become the mouthpiece of institutes and/or centres of forensic medicine.

It is a new concept that is being set up for the series of the *Journal of Forensic Medicine* which consists in asking each centre for their expertise, and using all the network's resources to provide a better response to the situations encountered.

In this issue our colleagues from Lyon demonstrate the importance of the forensic examination, in choosing between homicide and natural death. Centres are now confronted with cases of intoxication which require toxicological competence.

Centres cannot function without a precise definition of the legal rules. New Caledonia is building its medical law.

Institutes of forensic medicine are confronted with many cases of sexual assault; in this issue answers can be found in the area of concepts and treatment.

The forensic doctor is sometimes faced with behaviour that goes beyond his usual understanding. Fatal exorcism should be classified according to its surprising register.

Thanks to odontology, centres of forensic medicine have at their disposal an incomparable tool for identifying carbonized victims.

Centres of forensic medicine share common approaches worldwide but also have great differences.

The texts resulting from the 53rd meeting of the Association Italo-Belgo-Franco-Suisse (the IBFS Association) are a good example of what draws us closer and what separates us from our different colleagues.

In this meeting we discussed :

- Eric Lemaire reports on post-mortem redistribution of psycho-active substances and his preliminary results.
- Jacques Vital Durand presents the evolution of compensation for physical injury.
- J.M. Gaulier discusses volatile substances in post-mortem toxicology.
- Olivier Gout presents the evolution in France of medical liability for ethical misconduct.
- M. Loisel describes the necessary role of the lawyer in operations of expertise.
- Romano La Harpe looks at gunshot deaths in Geneva, Switzerland between 2001 and 2010.
- Jean Aubijoux examines current data on compensation by FIVA for victims of asbestos.
- Alexia Converset reports on the reform of psychiatric care without patient's consent by the laws of 5 July 2011 and 27 September 2013.

Long life to this new series.

FORENSIC MEDICINE
INSTITUTES JOURNAL
IS A SERIES OF THE
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MEDICINE, MEDICAL LAW

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