ABSTRACT

Aim:

1. The present study was taken up to know the trends in death due to poisoning.

2. To profile the factors involved in poisoning and to suggest preventive measures.

Objectives:

1. To study the manner of poisoning.

2. To identify the most common poison causing deaths in suicidal cases and accidental cases.

3. To identify the risk group.

4. To identify the factors contributing to poisoning.

5. To study the Post mortem finding in poisoning cases.

6. To compare the history, post mortem finding and forensic science lab results.

Methodology:

The present work will include retrospective study of poisoning cases autopsied in the department of forensic medicine & toxicology Govt. kilpauk medical college and hospital between January 2013 and December 2015.
Results:

During this study period, 9031 cases were brought for post-mortem examination out of which 227 (2.5%) deaths were due to poisoning. Out of 227 autopsied poisoning victims, 92.5% of cases were suicidal poisoning. There were 159 (70.0%) male and 68 (30.0%) female, in the cases autopsied in the department of forensic medicine & toxicology Govt. kilpauk medical college and hospital. The males outnumbered the females in totality. In this study maximum number of victims 68 (30%) belonged to age group of 41-50 years. Most of cases 189 (83.3%) took place at home and 160 (70.5%) victims belonged to lower socioeconomic status. Majority of the victims were Hindus consisting of 210 (92.5%) cases. 180 (79.3%) were married.

In our study, most of cases 78 (34.4%) consumed poison during 6pm to 12am. A greater number of suicidal poisoning cases 81 (35.7%) were in the summer.

In my study it was also found that 45 (19.8%) were brought dead to casualty and 27 (11.9%) were seen dead in the scene of crime, however the maximum number of cases succumbed to death on treatment after 24hrs. Amongst the 227 victims of poisoning, 150 (66.1%) cases undergone treatment in the hospital.

Chronic Depression was the main reason for poison consumption in 53 (23.3%) of the deaths. In this study, we observed that Insecticides was the most common consumed poison which accounted for 101 (44.5%). Forensic science laboratory detected Poison in 86 (37.9%) out of it organophosphorus was the maximum 33 (38.4%)

Keywords: Poison, manner of death, marital disharmony, depression, organophosphorous, ethyl alcohol.