

A PROSPECTIVE OBSERVATIONAL STUDY OF RUGOSCOPY: A RELIABLE, CHEAP AND ACCURATE METHOD FOR FORENSIC IDENTIFICATION

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This prospective observational study was created to identify the advantages and disadvantages of rugoscopy. After, a comprehensive literature review on forensic dental or forensic odontology methods and of course on rugoscopy, a prospective observational study was launched to find the easiest, the cheapest, the most reliable and accurate method of the rugal identification. At the first time, possible new and well-known old methods were compared and the best ones were selected for further examination. Dental-clay, salt-dough, intraoral and 2D camera was found good enough for further examination as a result of this part of the study. In the second part of the study a new rugal identification algorithm (which was the extension of the Thomas-Kotze method/classification of rugoscopy) were introduced and tested on voluntaries. This study found many specific advantages of rugal identification compared to the other method and measured its high specificity and sensitivity with or without clinical background.

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