

FINGERNAIL MATERIAL AS A STRONG EVIDENCE FROM THE CRIME SCENE

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**Deceased*



A 19 year old woman was found dead in her bed. On the body there were signs of trauma including scratch marks on her face, consistent with foul play, her estranged spouse presented also, scratches on his face. DNA was extracted from the victim's and the suspect's fingernails, and analyzed. Before extraction, cut fingernails were washed by incubation for two hours at 37°C in extraction buffer. Fingernail material was then extracted using the organic method, subjected to fluorescent STR amplification and analyzed. Mixed genotypes, identical to the victim's and the suspect's profiles were detected in both the victim and the suspect's fingernail DNA. These results emphasize the possibility of recovering sufficient foreign DNA from fingernail material by using a modified extraction procedure.