Lacerations
incised wounds

Incised wounds
DEFINITION

“The blunt force injuries in which the skin and the underlying tissues are torn apart due to the application of force”.

Characteristics

- Edges
- Margins.
- Tissues bridge
- External Hemorrhage may not be marked.
- Foreign material may be found
- Healing with scar
- Blunt metal rod
  - Stellate laceration
- Hammer
  - Crescentric laceration
- Stick
  - Split end resembling Y
• Laceration from linear object may be confused with those from fall
• Differentiated by
• Shelving
Types of Lacerations

- Split laceration
- Stretch laceration
- Avulsions
- Tears
- Chop lacerations
- Internal laceration
Chop Lacerations

These are the lacerations produced by a weapon with sharp heavy edge such as an axe, or a hatchet. Margins show abrasions and bruising.

These are usually homicidal
Internal laceration

• Blunt force exceed the tensile strength and elasticity of an internal organ or tissue. Without surface tear, abrasion or bruise may or may not present at the impact site.
Ante mortem and postmortem
Examination of victim of blunt force

- External evidence may be minimum
- Massive internal may be present
- Bleed less and give rise to infection
- Foreign material may be present
- Should not confused with bed sore
- Object may contain blood, hair or tissue fragment
Forensic Importance
Incised wounds
slashes, gashes, splits, cuts
DEFINITION
Incised wound is an injury produced by an instrument or weapon with a sharp cutting edge.

Example: Knives, Razors, Broken glass edge, Edge of paper or grass etc.
Types of incised wounds

1 Defense wounds
2 Cut throat
3 Self-inflicted or self-suffered
4 Miscellaneous
Characteristics

- Injury varies in sharpness according to the character of weapon.
- The margins are clean cut
- No bruising of wound edges
- Wound is usually linear
- Length of wound is greater than its depth
- All tissues are clearly divided and there is no tissue bridging
Characteristics (CONT'D)

• Bleeding is profuse.

• At the commencement the tissues are more deeply cut and tail off at the end. This indicates the direction of the wound.

• It sharp weapon enters obliquely

‘Hesitations or tentative cuts’
Forensic Importance of Slashes
Incised wounds, cuts, slashes, slices

Homicidal, accidental or self inflicted?

1. Pattern of grouping of wounds
2. Site of infliction
3. Character of wounds
4. Cuts on clothes
5. Defense wounds
6. Secondary injuries
7. Scene of occurrence
incisions vs split lacerations