

Beyond The Grave: Role of Osint in Odontology, A Digital Era Integration

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Abstract:

As every person on Earth is unique, so are dental remains, which make them a valuable tool in investigations. In this digital world, where data is the most valuable resource, every person leaves a trail of data, willingly or unwillingly, leading to the collection and analysis of publicly available information – a practice known as OSINT (open-source intelligence). Although forensic odontology and OSINT each have their own roles in the investigations, their intersection remains largely underexplored. This paper explores how OSINT could support forensic odontology by proposing a theoretical framework, illustrated through hypothetical scenarios. OSINT can provide leads from images, digital traces, or online clues when dental records are missing or when an investigation remains cold, even with complete dental records, thereby speeding up identification and guiding investigators by complementing traditional forensic odontology.

Keywords:

OSINT, Open-Source Intelligence, Forensic Odontology, Digital Investigation.