AJFMP Journal Club

**Article:** Cardiac Enlargement in a Medicolegal Autopsy Setting

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1. How do the results provided by the authors’ model differ from previously published heart weight reference values?

2. What references do you use to determine cardiac enlargement? Is there consensus in your office on what constitutes cardiomegaly?

3. What types of cases were excluded when the authors were constructing their model?

4. Why did the authors choose to not exclude decedents with enlarged hearts from their data set?

5. Describe the criticisms the authors have of other published references regarding normal heart weights.

6. What other tools beyond heart weight are helpful to identify cardiac pathology?

7. What was the population used to validate the model? How did their findings with this validation support some of their criticisms of previous heart weight references based on traumatic deaths?

8. What are some concerns about using body height vs body weight-based ranges for a normal heart weight?

9. How likely are you to use the model developed by the authors? What influences your choice?

10. Why did the authors exclude sex as a factor in their model?