

# THE ANALYSIS OF THE SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES BETWEEN 2002-2007 IN COUNCIL OF FORENSIC MEDICINE (ANKARA, TURKEY)



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## ABSTRACT:

In this study; the percentage of spermatozoid identification in 1333 swab samples that were examined in totally 931 (509 alive, 422 postmortem) sexual assault cases between 2002-2007. In results of the investigation of 438 vaginal and 199 anal swabs (68% belongs to women) that were all collected from alive victims; we found spermatozoids in 51% of vaginal swabs and in 23% of anal swabs. In results of the investigation of 278 vaginal and 418 anal swabs (59% belongs to women) that were collected from postmortem victims, we found spermatozoids in 16% of vaginal swabs and in 4% of anal swabs.

**Key words:** Sexual assault, victim, anal swab, vaginal swab, spermatozoid.

## INTRODUCTION:

In this study, we aimed to find the spermatozoid identification percentages in anal and vaginal swab samples of alive and postmortem cases that were studied between 2002 and 2007.

In a study that was made in Germany between 1979 and 1987, it is reported that in 44% of vaginal swabs spermatozoids were seen (Klemann WJ. and etc., 1990). In a similar study in France in 1998, that was including 418 sexual assault victims approximately 86% of whom were women, spermatozoids were seen in 30,3% ratio (Grossin C. and etc., 2003). In a recent study, in 16 of 80 cases sperms were identified (Young KL. and etc., 2006); in another study, 36,3% of 756 cases assailants were found guilty (Saint Martin and etc., 2007).

## MATERIAL METHOD:

We scanned our archives for cases that were sent us for spermatozoid investigation in swab samples which were collected from sexual attacked victims and postmortem people during autopsy. Datas were collected about being alive-postmortem, sexuality, material (anal-vaginal swab) and spermatozoid identification from these files and calculated according to ratios in the results section below.

## RESULTS:

Spermatozoids were identified in 51% of 438 vaginal and 23% of 199 anal swabs (68% belongs to woman) that were collected from alive victims (Figure 1).

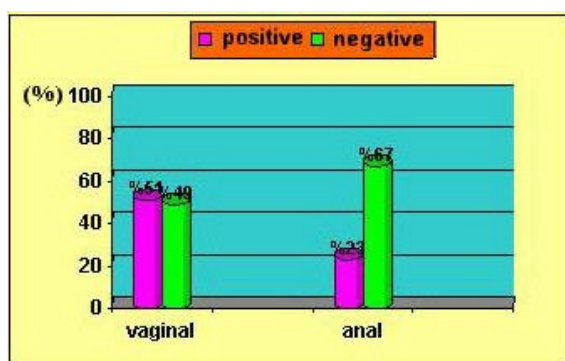


Fig.1: The percentage of spermatozoid identification in swab samples, belongs to alive victims.

Spermatozoids were identified in 16% of 278 vaginal and 4% of 418 anal swabs (59% belongs to woman) that were collected from postmortem victims (Figure 2).

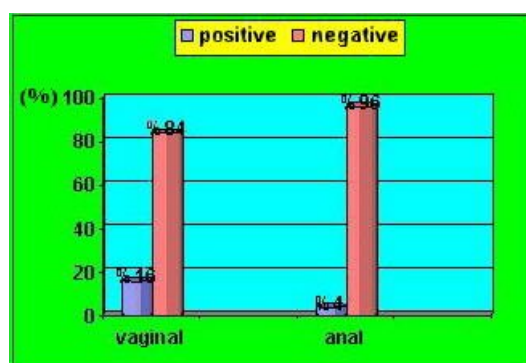


Fig.2: The percentage of spermatozoid identification in swab samples, belongs to postmortem victims.

## DISCUSSION:

According to these results, the percentage of spermatozoid identification in vaginal swabs that were collected from alive cases is quite higher than the postmortem cases. The effect of collecting swab samples from most of the postmortem victims by autopsy is obvious on determining the cause of death and to this decline in results. Thus, the effect of victim's sexual assault claim and physical examination on spermatozoid identification percentage in samples collected from alive victims is statistically supported by this study.

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