The longbow and crossbow are infrequently encountered by the forensic pathologist. As these weapons become more popular for sport and hunting, more fatalities may be anticipated. Three crossbow deaths (two homicides and one suicide) are presented. Included is the first report of a multiple shot death. The design and physics of the crossbow are described. The proper preservation of evidence, as well as wound analysis and interpretation, in such deaths are detailed.

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Abstract

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Three crossbow deaths (two homicides and one suicide) are presented. Included is the first report of a multiple shot death. The design and physics of the crossbow are described. The proper preservation of evidence, as well as wound analysis and interpretation, in such deaths are detailed. Authors: J C Downs; C A Nichols; D Scala-Barnett; B D Lifschultz. Related Documents: 10533755 - "avoidable" deaths in two areas of Sweden - analysis of deaths in hospital after injury. 19447535 - Ckd and risk of hospitalization and death with pneumonia. 21035155 - The effect of pre-hospital care fo