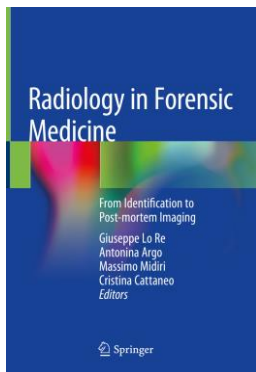


## Book shelf

# Radiology in Forensic Medicine: From Identification to Post-mortem Imaging

Lo Re, Argo, Midiri, Cattaneo

## REVIEW INFO



Publisher:  
Springer

ISBN:  
978-3-319-96736-3

RRP:  
£99.99

RAD Magazine price:  
£87.49\*

## REVIEW

*Book reviewed by Professor Guy Ruttly MBE, chief forensic pathologist, East Midlands Forensic Pathology Unit, University of Leicester.*

*Radiology in Forensic Medicine: From Identification to Post-mortem Imaging* is a hardback, standalone book edited by four editors from Palermo and Milan, Italy. The back cover informs us that the book offers a comprehensive overview of the forensic and radiological aspects of pathology findings, focusing on the most relevant medicolegal issues, such as virtual autopsy, anthropometric identification, post-mortem decomposition features and the latest radiological applications used in forensic investigations. Comprising 29 chapters spread over 301 pages it forms a compact, easy to read book providing an overview of a wide range of subjects concerning the use of radiology to investigate natural, unnatural and multiple deaths.

Having read the book from cover to cover there are, in my opinion, a number of problems that potential readers should be aware of. Firstly, the book comprises 29 separate monographs which, at times, are superficial in their coverage of the subject matter, often repeat the same content at the beginning of each chapter in terms of history and application, and unfortunately do not cover all techniques used in practice. For example, the use of ventilated PMCT/PMMR, post-mortem needle biopsies and microCT along with the use of CT for 3D printing or integration of photogrammetry and robotic systems get little, if any mention.

As the book does not contain an index the reader would have to be familiar with its entire content to seek out relevant sections to practice that may be present across several different chapters.

The chapter concerning bone histology has no imaging content and thus appears out of context for the book and, considering this is a radiology book, several chapters have errors in the figure legends.

*review continues ...*

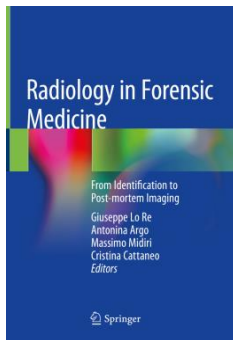
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... review continued

However, having been critical of the book, there are a few standout chapters: the chapter on the use of fMRI for lie detection was new to me and the chapters concerning forensic radiology for identification and brain imaging are good overviews of the subject. I would recommend these for standalone purchase.

It is difficult to predict who will benefit from this book. Those who, like myself, collect books in selected subject areas to ensure they have a comprehensive library, will no doubt buy the book to add to their collection. Those who work within the field of forensic and post-mortem cross-sectional imaging should consider it, although whether they use it in their daily practice is another matter as I suspect the content is too superficial for diagnostic use.

The book should be listed on student reference lists as a basic overview of the subject and thus an educational market should be open to the book. It may also prove useful to lawyers and police, again as a basic introduction book.

Even though the subject field is rapidly developing there is always room for a basic entry-level overview book for those completely new to the discipline and maybe this is where this book will find its place.

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