Age Determination in Sub-adults

Objectives: To review some of the current methods of determining age-at-death in fetal and subadult remains. The major methods include dental calcification and eruption, epiphyseal union and centers of ossification, estimating age from long limb bone measurements.

Readings: Review Chapter 9 in Byers (2005) and Byers and Myster (2005) and the assigned readings for this week.

Exercise 1: Determine the age-at-death using diaphyseal lengths of infracranial bones for Study Skeleton 6 (SS6). Follow the instructions provided for Exercise 9.1 in your lab manual (Byers and Myster) and Figures 9.1 through 9.7 in Byrer’s text (2005). Use Exercise Worksheet 9.1 to plot the age for at least 6 different bones given in Exercise Worksheet 9.1

Exercise 2: Using the skull of Study Skeleton 6, determine the age-of-death using the union of the primary ossification centers of the skull. Follow the instructions in Exercise 9.2. of the lab manual (Byers and Myster 2005) and Exercise Worksheet 9.2.

Exercise 3: Determine the dental age of Specimen SA200A or SA200B. Use figures 9.4 - 9.6 in Byers and Myster (2005) and Exercise Worksheet 9.3.


Exercise 5: These casts represent actual forensic cases from the Los Angeles Medical Examiner's Office. They include the anterior iliac crest and medial clavicle, which were removed and cleaned for age identification. Determine the age of death for one of the specimens with supporting rationale for your estimate:

Jane Doe B (Black female)
Jane Doe D (a Black female)
or John Doe F

Exercise 6: Identify and determine the age at death for each of the following.

A.
B.
C.