Reviewer's report

Title: Dissection of human cadavers previously imaged: A systematic study of imaging techniques in embalmed body donors

Version: 1 Date: 29 August 2013

Reviewer: Craig Canby

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions
1) In the results section for ultrasound, the authors stated that the experimental imaging of the liver and abdominal aorta was unreliable. However, imaging evaluation of these structures was not described in the methods section. If data are available, recommend its inclusion with appropriate revision to the methods section. If data are not available, then exclude liver and abdominal aorta from results section for ultrasound.

2) In the results section following MRI, the authors stated 3D reconstruction was evaluated for the four conducted imaging modalities and results are provided in Table 5. This needs to be added to the methods section.

3) Discussion section, first paragraph, last sentence: The authors stated they are convinced that combining post-mortem radiological images ... leads to a greater gain in knowledge... This statement should be softened, for example, "Based on our own experiences, we agree with the findings of Chew et al and Bohl et al that combining post-mortem radiological ...

Minor essential revisions
1) First sentence of abstract, recommend insertion of the word 'an' between is and integral.

2) Sixth sentence of abstract, recommend insertion of the word 'and' between donors, and analyzing.

3) First sentence of introduction, recommend insertion of the word 'an' between is and integral.

4) Fifth sentence of introduction, recommend that years be changed to year.

5) Page 7, computed tomography, second sentence, recommend joints rather than joint.

6) Page 7 computed tomography, sentence 4, recommend 0.6 mm and 0.5 mm.

7) Page 7, MRI, next to last sentence, recommend 2.5 mm.

8) Page 10, last sentence of second paragraph, the acronym US is used for the first time and is then used in parentheses following Ultrasound below. Perhaps define the acronym earlier in the manuscript when ultrasound is first used and use acronym thereafter.
Discretionary revisions

1) Under the limitations sections, perhaps the authors could consider the various embalming techniques including the Thiel technique in influencing and evaluating the quality of acquired images via the four modalities.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.