

# FORENSIC DNA APPLICATIONS: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE FROM CRC PRESS



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Edited by  
Dragan Primorac  
Moses Schanfield



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## Review

"As the editors state in the Preface, Forensic DNA Applications: An Interdisciplinary Perspective was created to fill a perceived void for a book that could be used as a textbook for students and as a reference book for forensic science practitioners, lawyers, and judges dealing with civil and criminal cases involving DNA technology. The editors have succeeded in meeting the void they describe. Although it is not a "how-to" text, the future direction emphasis and comprehensive nature make Forensic DNA Applications: An Interdisciplinary Perspective a welcome addition to the book collection of any forensic molecular biology practitioner. It is also better suited for the graduate student than for the undergraduate given that it is not an introductory text and presupposes a strong background in molecular biology and genetics."

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" ... the most comprehensive volume on forensic and ancestral DNA analysis yet published. Drs. Primorac and Schanfield deserve considerable credit for having brought this wide-ranging material together under one cover."

?R. E. Gaensslen, Prof. Emeritus, Forensic Science, University of Illinois, Chicago, From the Book's Foreword

## About the Author

Dragan Primorac, M.D., Ph.D., is a pediatrician, forensic expert, and geneticist. Currently he serves as an adjunct professor at Eberly College of Science, The Pennsylvania State University, and The Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences, University of New Haven in the United States and at Medical Schools in Split and Osijek in Croatia. Professor Primorac is a pioneer in the application of DNA analysis for identification of bodies in mass graves. He authored close to 200 scientific papers, book chapters, and abstracts in areas of forensic science, clinical medicine, molecular genetics, population genetics, genetic legacy of homo sapiens, education, science, and technology policy.

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# **FORENSIC DNA APPLICATIONS: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE FROM CRC PRESS PDF**

Forensic DNA Applications: An Interdisciplinary Perspective was developed as an outgrowth of a conference held by the International Society of Applied Biological Sciences. The topic was human genome-based applications in forensic science, anthropology, and individualized medicine. Assembling the contributions of contributors from numerous regions around the world, this volume is designed as both a textbook for forensic molecular biology students and a reference for practitioners and those in the legal system.

The book begins with the history and development of DNA typing and profiling for criminal and civil purposes. It discusses the statistical interpretation of results with case examples, mitochondrial DNA testing, Y single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and short tandem repeats (STRs), and X SNP and STR testing. It also explores low copy number DNA typing, mixtures, and quality assurance and control.

The second section examines the collection and preservation of biological evidence under a variety of different circumstances and the identification of human remains—including in mass disaster settings. It discusses applications to bioterrorism investigations, animal DNA testing in criminal cases, pedigree questions and wildlife forensic problems, applications in forensic entomology, and forensic botany.

The third section explores recent developments and new technologies, including the rigorous identification of tissue of origin, mtDNA profiling using immobilized probe strips, chips and next-generation sequencing, the use of SNPs to ascertain phenotypic characteristics, and the "molecular autopsy" that looks at aspects of toxicogenetics and pharmacogenetics.

The book concludes with a discussion on law, ethics, and policy. It examines the use of DNA evidence in the criminal justice system in both the United States and Europe, ethical issues

in forensic laboratory practices, familial searches, DNA databases, ancestry searches, physical phenotyping, and report writing. The contributors also examine DNA applications in immigration and human trafficking cases and international perspectives on DNA databases.

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