**Original article**

**Morphological Variations of Coronoid Process in Dry Adult Human Mandibles**

**\* Dr Smita Tapas**

**Name of the Institute/college**: Vardhaman Mahavir Medical College & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi- 110029
\* Corresponding author: Mail ID - smitatapas@yahoo.com

**Abstract:**

**Introduction:** The coronoid process has been described as one of the bony processes of the ramus of the mandible.

**Materials and Methods:** The morphological analysis of shapes of coronoid process of both side of fifty dry adult human mandibles of Indian origin (100 sides) were done in order to classify the variations.

**Observation and results:** Three types of variations in the shape were evident. Triangular, hook shaped and rounded. Triangular shaped coronoid process was found in 60 (60%) sides, hook shaped process in 22 (22%) and round shaped in 18 (18%) sides.

**Conclusion:** Knowledge of the morphological shapes of the coronoid process is useful for the maxillofacial surgeon during reconstructive surgeries. The mandibular coronoid process has been used as a donor site for sinus augmentation. The shape of coronoid process is also useful in anthropological studies and in forensic dentistry.

**Key Words:** Mandible, coronoid process