



AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND
DEVELOPMENT
MASTER OF BIOETHICS
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION XXXX TO AUGUST 2024

MAIN EXAM

UNIT CODE: MBE 712

UNIT NAME: HUMAN RIGHTS,
GENDER AND BIOETHICS

DATE: August, 2024

TIME: Three Hours

Start: XXX Hours

Finish XXX Hours

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This exam is marked out of 70 marks
2. This Examination comprises TWO Sections
Section A: Compulsory Question (30 marks)
Section B: Long Answer Questions (40 marks)

SECTION A: COMPULSORY (30 Marks)

Question 1 Short Answer Questions

- 1) Using examples, explain why human rights are considered universal and inalienable. (5mks)
- 2) Discuss the role of patient confidentiality in upholding human rights in healthcare. (5 marks)
- 3) Briefly explain feminism in the context of bioethics and its relevance to ethical decision-making in healthcare. (5 marks)

4) Read the following case and answer the questions that follow:

Ayanda (not his real name) consumed a significant amount of alcohol and subsequently was involved in a severe car accident. At the hospital, his blood alcohol level was recorded at 0.233. He reported experiencing pain in his head, eyes, back, and ribs, as well as blurry vision due to blood in his eyes. Due to his intoxication and the severity of the accident, the medical team decided to perform a diagnostic peritoneal lavage. When the procedure was explained to Ayanda, he refused. However, the medical team determined that he was not competent to make this decision because of his high level of intoxication. Consequently, he was physically restrained, and the procedure was carried out.

- (a) Discuss two roles of gender norms in influencing Ayanda's decision to refuse treatment (5mks).
- (b) Describe any two (2) conflicts that arise from the requirement to adhere to the principles of both human rights and ethics in health care (5mks).
- (c) Referring to any framework, describe key steps in ethical decision-making in health care in the context of the case study(5mks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS OUT of Four (4) QUESTIONS (40 Marks)

Long Answer Questions (each question is 20 marks)

5. Health is increasingly recognized as a fundamental human right and integral to the well-being and dignity of individuals. Discuss any two roles of government and international organization in ensuring the right to health is upheld globally. (20mks)

6. Feminism has significantly influenced the field of bioethics. Discuss the contributions of feminist bioethics to contemporary bioethical debates and practices. (20mks)

7. a) Discuss 5 challenges encountered by feminist bioethics in integrating their perspectives into mainstream bioethical discourse. (10 marks)
- b) Discuss 5 strategies for enhancing gender equity in research participation while ensuring ethical standards are upheld. (10 marks)

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UNIT CODE: MBE 712

UNIT NAME: HUMAN RIGHTS,
GENDER AND BIOETHICS

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAM

DATE August, 2024

TIME: Three Hours

Start: XXX Hours

Finish XXX Hours

INSTRUCTIONS

3. This exam is marked out of 70 marks
4. This Examination comprises TWO Sections
Section A: Compulsory Question (30 marks)
Section B: Long Answer Questions (40 marks)

SECTION A: COMPULSORY (30 Marks)

Question 1 Short Answer Questions

- 1.) Using relevant examples, discuss the influence of gender on access to healthcare. (5 marks)
- 2.) Evaluate the ethical considerations surrounding gender in human subject research. (5 marks)
- 3.) Discuss strategies to enhance gender equity in research participation while ensuring ethical standards are upheld. (10 marks)

- 4.) Compare and contrast the challenges of addressing gender disparities in healthcare access versus gender biases in human subject research. (10 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS OUT of Four (4) QUESTIONS (40 Marks)

Long Answer Questions (each question is 20 marks)

- 5.) Ethics is not a check box exercise. Discuss this statement in the context of patient rights and responsibilities. (10mks)
- 6.) Using examples, discuss emerging /contemporary ethical dilemmas in health care. (10mks)
- 7.) Please read the following case scenarios and answer the questions that follow:

Scenario 1-Weg a 15-year-old girl, has suffered from leukaemia since the age of 6 years. She has had multiple courses of chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant, all of which have failed. She is constantly in hospital and as such has had a disrupted education and little opportunity to make lasting friendships. She and her parents have accepted that further treatment is unlikely to be beneficial, and she wishes to return home to die in peace. Her doctors are unwilling to accept her decision as she is only 15.

Scenario 2 Thra, a 15-year-old girl, was born with a congenital heart defect that was repaired at birth. She now needs a heart transplant to enable her to live an active life. She is, however, adamant that she does not want to live 'with someone else's heart beating inside me'. The prognosis of recovery after the heart transplant is good. Her parents are prepared to accept whatever decision she makes as they believe she will have to live with the consequences.

Questions

- 7.) (a) Discuss the role of parental consent and adolescent autonomy in healthcare decision-making, using Thra's case study (5mks)

- (b) What ethical considerations should guide healthcare providers when adolescents refuse life-saving treatments, and their parents support their decision? (5 marks)
- 8.) Discuss the potential benefits of incorporating feminist perspectives into bioethics. (10mks)

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