



AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOETHICS

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION MAY-AUGUST 2024

UNIT CODE: MBE 716: CLINICAL ETHICS

DATE: XX August, 2024

TIME: **Three Hours**

Start: 4:00 PM

Finish 7: 00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This exam is marked out of 100 marks
2. This Examination comprises TWO Sections
Section A: Compulsory Question (25 marks)
Section B: Long Answer Questions (75 marks)

SECTION A: COMPULSORY (25 Marks)

Short Answer Questions

1. Sarah is a 25-year-old graduate student who has been seeing a therapist, Dr. Wilson, for the past 6 months to address her struggles with anxiety and depression. During their most recent session, Sarah confided in Dr. Wilson that she has been having suicidal thoughts and has started to formulate a plan to end her life.

Dr. Wilson is deeply concerned for Sarah's safety and well-being. However, Sarah has explicitly stated that she does not want Dr. Wilson to share this information with anyone, including her family or the university counseling center. Sarah says she trusts Dr. Wilson and believes that maintaining confidentiality is crucial for her to feel comfortable opening up in therapy. Sarah's parents notice that her behavior has changed and seek out Dr. Wilson with their fears that Sarah could be planning her death.

- A. What should Dr. Wilson do in this situation, **justify** why. (5 marks)

- B. Which ethical principles conflict? **Support** your answer using the principles that are in conflict. (7 marks)
2. A hospital implements an AI system to assist in diagnosing patients. The AI system often misdiagnoses patients from minority backgrounds due to a lack of diverse data in its training set.
- A. Propose what ethical issues would be raised by the AI system's misdiagnoses? (7 marks)
- B. How might these issues be managed (from an ethical perspective)? (6marks)

SECTION B (Set 5 Questions)

ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS (75 Marks)

Long Answer Questions

1. A couple undergoes genetic screening and learns that their future child has a high risk of developing a genetic disorder. They are unsure whether to proceed with the pregnancy. What ethical considerations should the couple take into account and **evaluate** when making their decision about the pregnancy? (25 marks)
2. Nurse Alice notices that a celebrity has been admitted to the hospital where she works. She is tempted to share this information with her friends and on social media. **Discuss** why Nurse Alice should maintain confidentiality in this situation and the potential consequences of breaching it. (25 marks)
3. Dr. Smith is a cardiologist who needs to perform a complex procedure on Mr. Jones, a 65-year-old patient with a history of heart disease. Dr. Smith explains the procedure to Mr. Jones, including the risks and benefits. Mr. Jones nods but looks confused. He signs the consent form without asking any questions. **Propose** what steps Dr. Smith should take to ensure that Mr. Jones has given truly informed consent? (25 marks)
4. **Discuss** the composition and the utility of a Hospital ethics committee and **compare** how this differs from a Research ethics committee . (25 marks)
5. A hospital “Afya wema” is frequented by pharmaceutical representatives who seek to see the medical consultants, medical officers, nursing officers and nursing staff and also

hospital administrators in order to discuss with them the latest drug developments that could benefit patients coming to this facility. Are there any ethical concerns with such visits? If you are the CEO of the facility what steps would you take ? **(25 marks)**

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