



AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND
DEVELOPMENT
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION SEPTEMBER TO
DECEMBER 2024

UNIT CODE: HSM711 **UNIT NAME:** MEDICO-
LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES IN HEALTH SYSTEMS
MANAGEMENT: DECEMBER 2024
TIME: Three Hours **Start:** 5:30 PM **Finish:** 8:30 PM

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

- a) Explain what constitutes a medico-legal case, illustrating with three examples (4mks)

- b) Describe the potential benefits of shared decision-making to the patient in the consenting process (8mks)

c) Explain the ethical and legal issues guiding the need for comprehensive documentation of cases in health facility (6mks)

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

X, a 29-year-old woman, has been diagnosed with clinical depression. Family and financial problems have forced her to rely on drugs as a means to escape reality. While driving on a highway, she had a sudden stroke leading to a vehicular accident. She was found unconscious and was rushed to the emergency room of a nearby medical facility. Her medical tests indicated high levels of cocaine and multiple organ failure due to long-term drug addiction. The assigned nurse also found a note in her shirt pocket that explained her desire to kill herself and refused any medical assistance that might be offered. Her doctor decides to treat her regardless of her demand. After a week, she was referred to an affiliate facility for a designated healthcare service payable by a federal health program. Anna's doctor then asks her relatives for additional compensation for the referral.

Question: i) Explain the type of unethical behavior and legal issues in this case, justifying your answer (5mks)

ii) Would the patient be justified to sue? Explain your answer (2mks).

e.) Explain the following concepts

i) Ethical dilemma (2 marks)

Ii) Moral courage (1 marks)

Iii) Moral distress (1 marks)

V) Moral uncertainty (1 marks)

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

Long Answer Questions (each question is 20 marks)

2.) Using an ethical dilemma of your choice, describe the six steps you would follow to reach an appropriate decision that could generate greater benefits to a patient (20mks)

3) Discuss six (6) ethical and legal concerns around patient data (20mks)

4. Please read the following case scenarios and answer the questions that follow:

C has just given birth to her first child. She is surprised when the health visitor says that she will be given food vouchers if she tries to breastfeed her baby for 3 months.

Js has had schizophrenia for 15 years. His compliance with medication is variable. He is offered a chance to take part in a programme whereby he will be paid £10 for each antipsychotic injection.

A council-run weight loss programme is offering reduced membership fee to the local gym for people who have a BMI of more than 35 and who commit to a weight loss and fitness programme for 6 months.

*R is a sexual health consultant with responsibility for a local hostel for women who are sex workers. A number of them do not use contraception effectively, which results in pregnancy and increased abortion rates. R-wants to encourage the women to come to a talk about **Depo-Provera** contraception which he thinks would be an effective strategy to prevent pregnancy, in addition to using barrier methods. He offers lunch vouchers and toiletries to encourage their attendance at the talk.*

Questions

1) Explain the ethical concerns if incentives are offered to encourage healthy lifestyle choices and compliance with medical treatments (15mks)

1i) Do incentives effectively coerce consent? Explain your answer (5mks)

5. Discuss with relevant examples any five (5) forms of fraud commonly reported in health care highlighting their potential impact on patient care (20mks).

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