



AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
MSC BIOETHICS
END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR JANUARY - APRIL, 2023

MBE 716: Clinical Ethics

Date :Monday 17th April 2023

TIME :Three (3) Hours 6:00 PM- 9:00 PM

Instructions

- 1) *This paper has two sections; Section A and Section B*
- 2) *Answer ANY 5 questions*
- 3) *Use the university examination booklets provided*
- 4) *Write your student registration number on all your answer sheets*

QUESTIONS

1. Mueni is a 15-year-old girl in form 3 and has her first boyfriend. She visits the family planning clinic and asks the healthcare provider to put her on a contraceptive. This is because she thinks her boyfriend might ask her for sex and she does not want to get pregnant and ruin her school attendance or her future. Discuss the ethical dilemma the health care worker may face and what options are possible for appropriate management of this case and why. Use any philosophical/ ethical theories that may justify your choice. (20 marks)
2. Mrs. Kazi is a frail woman who has been living alone for the past 3 years since losing her husband to lung cancer. She was recently diagnosed with throat cancer. Last night when her daughter was visiting her, Mrs. Kazi developed a sudden severe headache, slurred speech and could hardly stand. She was rushed to the hospital but by the time they reached there she had difficulty in breathing and needed intubation. A brain CT scans show a massive stroke that she is unlikely to recover from. Her daughter, who is her next of kin, knows that her mother would not want to live if she is unable to live independently. Discuss the possible actions that would be in the best interest of Mrs. Kazi. (20 Marks)
3. Discuss the composition, roles and responsibilities of a research ethics committee. What challenges might such a committees face in Low and Middle income country (LMIC) settings? What steps would you recommend for mitigating against such challenges ? (20 Marks)
4. Mary is a 3-year-old child receiving treatment for a serious heart condition in a city hospital. The parents were informed by the medical team that continuation of active treatment was prolonging the child's suffering and would not improve her condition. However, they did not want treatment to be discontinued. Gradually over several weeks, Mary's condition worsened. The treating physician then took the case to the ethics consultative services at the hospital. What concerns do you think the treating physician may raise ? Discuss the options of the hospital ethics committee in addressing the concerns listed. (20 marks)
5. A patient is admitted to the hospital and placed in a shared room. A nurse comes to administer his medications, but inadvertently gives his pills to the other patient in the

room. The other patient recognizes that these are not his medications and alerts the nurse. She then gives the medications to the correct patient. What is the ethical concern in this case scenario and should any further action be taken? (20 marks)

6. In country MAHALI PAZURI, there is discussion on a law that will allow doctors to assist terminally patients undergoing unbearable suffering to end their lives. A group of doctors are opposed to such a law, arguing that it may eventually lead to patients who are not terminally ill going through the process. Discuss the doctors concern, what ethical dilemma this presents and provide your opinion on the law justifying whichever option you support . (20 marks)

7. Dr. Janet, a nutritionist at a major hospital, is approached by a pharmaceutical agent with the invitation to deliver a lecture on nutritional requirements in critically ill patients at a conference organized at a resort hotel in a popular tourist location. Her travel and stay will be fully funded by the company. Is there any ethical concern with regards to this invitation and if you are hospital Chief Executive Officer would you approve the trip ? (20 marks)

8. Mary's older cousin has requested her to be artificially inseminated with her husband's sperm. This will enable the couple to have a child of their own after trying to conceive for the past 8 years. If Mary carries the child to term and relinquishes all parental rights after delivery, her cousin has offered to relocate her from the village, enrol her in the university and fund her education and living expenses for the duration of her study. Discuss any ethical concerns that may arise in this case (20 marks).