



**AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY SCIENCES  
SUPPLIMENTARY/SPECIAL APRIL 2025 EXAMINATIONS**

**COURSE CODE: DOP 111**

**TITLE: CRITICAL THINKING AND ACADEMIC WRITING IN ONCOLOGY**

**DATE: 7-4-2025**

Duration: 2 HOURS

Start: 9:00 AM

Finish: 11:00 AM

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. This exam is out of 70 marks
2. This Examination comprises THREE Sections. Section I: Multiple Choice Questions (20 marks)  
Section II: Short Answer Questions (30 marks) and Section III: Long Answer Questions (20 marks)
3. Answer ALL Questions.
4. Do Not write anything on the question paper -use the back of your booklet for rough work if need be.

**SECTION I: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS**

**(20 MARKS)**

2. What is the first step in clinical reasoning for a new oncology patient? (1mks)
- A) Starting the most aggressive treatment available.
  - B) Developing a differential diagnosis.
  - C) Recommending palliative care.
  - D) Referring the patient to a specialist.
3. In patient-centred care, whose preferences and values are prioritized? (1mks)
- A) The oncologists.
  - B) The healthcare teams.
  - C) The patients.
  - D) The insurance companies.
4. When conducting a risk-benefit analysis, what should be considered? (1mks)
- A) Only the benefits of the treatment.
  - B) Both the potential benefits and risks of the treatment.
  - C) Only the risks of the treatment.
  - D) The cost of the treatment.
5. Which of the following best describes a multidisciplinary approach in oncology? (1mks)
- A) Treatment decisions made solely by the oncologist.
  - B) Including various healthcare professionals in patient care.
  - C) Consulting only with surgeons.
  - D) Relying on nursing staff for all decisions.
6. Which ethical principle is most directly concerned with the patient's right to make informed decisions? (1mks)
- A) Beneficence.
  - B) Non-maleficence.
  - C) Autonomy.
  - D) Justice.

7. In oncology, quality of life should be prioritized in which situation? (1mks)

- A) When the treatment has no side effects.
- B) Always, regardless of the stage of cancer.
- C) Only in end-of-life care.
- D) When the patient requests it.

8. Effective communication with patients involves: (1mks)

- A) Using medical jargon to explain treatments.
- B) Listening actively and empathetically.
- C) Limiting the patient's questions to save time.
- D) Delegating communication to support staff

9. When critically appraising a research study, which aspect is most important? (1mks)

- A) The length of the study.
- B) The funding source.
- C) The study's methodology and validity.
- D) The popularity of the authors.

10. How should oncologists handle decision-making under uncertainty? (1mks)

- A) Avoid making any decisions until certainty is achieved.
- B) Rely solely on personal experience.
- C) Use best available evidence and clinical judgment.
- D) Refer all cases to another specialist.

11. Recognizing and mitigating bias in clinical practice helps to: (1mks)

- A) Increase the efficiency of treatments.
- B) Ensure fair and accurate patient care.
- C) Reduce the workload of healthcare providers.
- D) Simplify the treatment process.

12. Clinical guidelines in oncology are designed to: (1mks)

- A) Mandate a single treatment approach.
- B) Inform and guide clinical practice based on evidence.
- C) Replace clinical judgment.
- D) Reduce the cost of treatments.

13. Prognostication in oncology involves: (1mks)

- A) Predicting the exact outcome of cancer.
- B) Estimating the likely course and outcome of cancer.
- C) Guaranteeing a specific survival rate.
- D) Making treatment decisions based on prognosis.

14. Which of the following is an example of critical thinking in oncology? (1mks)

- A) Administering medication according to the doctor's orders
- B) Assessing a patient's vital signs and interpreting the findings
- C) Following a checklist for a routine procedure
- D) Accepting a patient's complaint without questioning it.

15. When considering cost-effectiveness in oncology, which factor is most important? (1mks)

- A) The total cost of the treatment.
- B) The patient's ability to pay.
- C) The balance between cost and the benefit to the patient.
- D) The availability of cheaper alternatives.

16. Integrating new technologies and innovations in oncology practice involves: (1mks)

- A) Using only well-established treatments.
- B) Adopting new technologies without thorough evaluation.
- C) Evaluating and integrating beneficial new technologies.
- D) Avoiding new technologies to minimize risks.

17. An oncologist is faced with conflicting information from different sources regarding a patient's condition. Which critical thinking skill is essential in this situation? (1mks)

- a) Analysis
- b) Intuition
- c) Acceptance
- d) Collaboration

18. Palliative care in oncology is primarily focused on: (1mks)

- A) Curing the cancer.
- B) Providing relief from symptoms and stress of cancer.
- C) Only end-of-life care.
- D) Prolonging life at all costs.

19. Understanding the role of clinical trials in oncology helps with: (1mks)

- A) Avoiding experimental treatments.
- B) Offering patients access to new treatments.
- C) Guaranteeing a cure for cancer.
- D) Ensuring treatments are low-cost.

20. Continuous learning in oncology is important because: (1mks)

- A) Cancer treatments never change.
- B) It ensures the healthcare provider stays current with advances.
- C) It is required by law.
- D) It is only necessary for new graduates.

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**SECTION II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS** (30 MARKS)

1. State five importance of evidence-based practice in oncology? (5mks)
2. Outline five ways in which critical thinking aid in the diagnosis of cancer? (5mks)
3. State five significance of evaluation of treatment options in oncology? (5mks)
4. List five ways in which an oncologist can use critical thinking to manage conflicting information from different studies? (5ks)
5. State five ways in which interdisciplinary collaboration benefit from critical thinking in oncology? (5mks)
6. State five importance of patient-centred care in oncology, and how does critical thinking support it? (5kms)

**SECTION III: LONG ANSWER QUESTION** – (20 MARKS)

1. Discuss the role of critical thinking in oncology decision-making. Provide an example from oncology practice where critical thinking would play a crucial role in identifying and resolving a complex patient care issue. (10mks)