



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 SEP-DEC 2025
MAIN EXAM

UNIT CODE: HSM 711 **UNIT NAME:** MEDICAL LEGAL AND ETHICS IN HEALTH CARE

DATE: DECEMBER 2025

TIME: **Three Hours** **Start:** 5:30 PM **Finish:** 8: 30 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. a. Define medical negligence (1 mark)
b. Explain the four elements required to medical negligence in a court of law. (4Marks)
2. Describe 5 ethical principles guiding health care practice and how each applies in clinical decision-making. (5Marks)
3. Highlight the 5 differences between civil liability and criminal liability in medical malpractice cases? (5marks)
4. Explain how confidentiality can be breached legally and ethically in 5 certain medical situations. (5 marks)
5. Discuss end-of-life care ethics using 5 ethical dilemma that arises in palliative care settings. (5 marks)

SECTION B (Set 5 Questions)

ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS (75 Marks)

Long Answer Questions

6. A 55-year-old patient refuses a life-saving surgery due to religious beliefs. The medical team believes proceeding without consent would be in the patient's best interest.
 - a. Discuss the 5 ethical principles involved in this process. (10 marks)
 - b. Describe 5 legal implications if the surgery proceeds without consent (10 marks)
 - c. As a health administrator, discuss 2 steps you would take to mediate this situation? (5 marks)

7. A hospital administrator discovers that patient data have been accidentally shared with unauthorized persons.
 - a. Describe the 5 legal responsibilities (5 marks)
 - b. Discuss 5 fiduciary ethical duties involved. (10 Marks)
 - c. Discuss appropriate steps that can be proposed to handle this situation in line with medical data protection and confidentiality laws of your country. (10 marks)

8. A nurse reports that a senior doctor is prescribing opioids without proper monitoring, resulting in patient harm.
 - a. Analyze this scenario using:
 - I. Whistleblowing Framework (10 marks)
 - II. Professional accountability framework. (10 marks)
 - b. Discuss the potential two legal and three ethical consequences for both parties (5 Marks).

9. Discuss with 5 relevant examples how "The principle of beneficence" may conflict with patient autonomy. (25 marks)

10. A terminally ill patient requests physician-assisted dying in a jurisdiction where it is illegal.
 - a. Discuss the 5 **legal constraints** on the healthcare team (10 marks).

- b. Analyze using two **ethical arguments** for and against honoring the patient's request. (15 Marks)

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