



AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
HIGHER DIPLOMA IN COMMUNITY HEALTH
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION APRIL 2025

UNIT CODE: HDCH 016 Research Methodology
DATE: XX , December 2025
TIME: Two Hours **Start:** **Finish**

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This exam is marked out of 60 marks
2. This Examination comprises TWO Sections
Section A: Compulsory Question (20 marks)
Section B: Long Answer Questions (40 marks)

SECTION A: COMPULSORY (20 Marks)

1. Define research and explain two main purposes of research in community health. (4 marks)
2. Distinguish between basic and applied research, giving one example of each. (4 marks)
3. List four characteristics of good research. (4 marks)
4. Differentiate between primary and secondary sources of research data. (4 marks)
5. State any two ethical considerations in community health research. (4 marks)

SECTION B

ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS (40 Marks)

6. Research is fundamental in generating evidence to guide decision-making and improve community health outcomes. Understanding the research process enables health professionals to identify problems, design studies, and apply findings effectively in real-world settings.

a) Explain **four** major types of health research and their relevance to community health.

(8 marks)

b) Differentiate between quantitative and qualitative research approaches. (6 marks)

c) Discuss **three** importance of choosing an appropriate research design in community health studies. (6 marks)

7. A well-developed research protocol provides a structured plan that guides the entire research process. It ensures clarity, consistency, and ethical compliance while enabling researchers to achieve valid and reliable results.

a) Outline **four** key components of a research protocol and explain their importance. (8 marks)

b) Describe the **three** main steps involved in developing research objectives. (6 marks)

c) Discuss **three** ethical considerations that must be taken into account when conducting health research. (6 marks)

8. Sampling is a crucial aspect of research methodology that determines how study participants or elements are selected from a population. Appropriate sampling techniques enhance the validity, reliability, and generalizability of research findings

a) Explain **four** different methods of sampling used in health research, highlighting their advantages and disadvantages.

(8 marks)

b) Describe **three** procedures involved in ensuring validity and reliability in data collection tools.

(6 marks)

c) Discuss **three** importance of budgeting and timeframes in research proposal development.

(6 marks)

