



**AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**  
**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND**  
**DEVELOPMENT**  
**END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION JANUARY-APRIL 2026**  
**HMD 415 HEALTH SYSTEMS RESEARCH**  
**MAIN EXAM**

**TIME:** Two Hours  
**Date :** April 2026  
**TIME :** Two (2) Hours      Start-----End.....

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- 1) This exam is out of 70 marks
- 2) Section-A is compulsory with a Total of 30 Marks
- 3) Answer any TWO (2) questions in Section B

*Read carefully the additional instructions preceding each section.*

**SECTION A: Answer all questions (30 MARKS)**

1. Using suitable examples, explain five ways in which Health Systems Research (HSR) differs from clinical and epidemiological research. 5mks
2. Describe the concept of a health system according to the World Health Organization (WHO). 5mks
3. Explain the relevance of systems thinking in health systems research. 5mks
4. Outline five key objective areas of Health Systems Research with reference to health needs, policy, resources, and interventions. 5mks

5. State five reasons why Health Systems Research is important in strengthening health systems. 5mks
6. Identify five key developmental milestones in HSR from the WHO 1967 report to the present. 5mks

**SECTION B: Answer any two questions(40 MARKS)**

**Question 7:** You have been appointed as a Health Systems Research Officer in your county government.

- a) Explain the relationship between health policy and health systems research. (6 marks)
- b) Describe four roles of WHO in advancing health policy and systems research globally and in Kenya. (8 marks)
- c) Illustrate three ways in which HSR findings can inform County Health Sector Strategic and Investment Plans (CHSSIPs). (6 marks)

**Question 8:** A Ministry of Health task-force wants to strengthen service delivery using evidence.

- a) Discuss four ways in which your country context influences the implementation of the WHO health system building blocks. (8 marks)
- b) Discuss three roles of Health Systems Research in strengthening two selected building blocks in Kenya. (6 marks)
- c) Explain six ways in which the health systems research supports Universal Health Coverage (UHC) reforms. (6 marks)

**Question 9:** A researcher plans to conduct an Health System Research(HSR) study on poor maternal health outcomes in a sub-county.

- a) Using appropriate examples, distinguish between intervention and non-intervention study designs in HSR. (6 marks)
- b) Describe appropriate data collection tools and techniques for this study. (6 marks)
- c) Discuss four ethical issues that must be considered when conducting this HSR study. (8 marks)