



AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

MASTERS IN BIOETHICS

END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION

MBE 716: CLINICAL ETHICS

Date : 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025

TIME : Two (3) Hours Start: 5:30 PM End: 8:30 PM

#### Instructions

- 1) This paper has two sections; Section A and Section B
- 2) Answer **ALL** questions in **Section A**
- 3) For **Section B**, answer **any two (2)** questions of your choice

#### Note:

Section A: Answer all questions with 25 marks.

Section B: Two questions of your choice -75 marks each 25 marks.

#### **Section A: Answer ALL questions**

##### **1. (25 marks)**

A 25-year-old patient urgently requires a blood transfusion after a road traffic accident. At the casualty department, he completely refuses to be given blood, saying that it goes against his religious beliefs, and he believes that accepting a blood transfusion willingly and without regret is a sin. The doctor is obligated to transfuse him urgently to save his life without which, the patient is going to die. He urgently consults the Hospital Ethics Committee (HEC) hospital member on call.

- a. Analyse 2 legal issues in this case (4 marks)
- b. Describe 5 roles and 4 goals of a HEC (9 marks)
- c. Identify and justify the process the HEC would use to try and resolve the challenge (6 marks)
- d. Suggest 3 points on the possible advice that the HEC would give in this case (6 marks)

#### **SECTION B (75 MARKS)**

## 2. (25 marks)

A 17-year-old girl seeks an abortion in a country where abortion is legally restricted but permitted in cases of rape.

- a. Discuss the ethical principles involved in her case (10 marks)
- b. Analyse 4 challenges healthcare providers may face in balancing legal and ethical responsibilities (10 marks)
- c. Discuss how policies should address such cases to ensure ethical and equitable access to reproductive care (5 marks)

## 3. (25 marks)

- a. Discuss 5 ethical arguments for embryo selection in in-vitro fertilization (10 marks)
- b. Discuss 5 ethical arguments against embryo selection in in-vitro fertilization (IVF). Evaluate 2 points on how different countries regulate ART and the ethical implications of cross-border reproductive tourism (5 marks)

## 4. (25 marks)

- a). Analyze 4 ethical issues that arise from the interactions between physicians and the pharmaceutical industry while emphasizing the need for ethical principles (12 marks). b)  
Discuss 4 strategies that could help mitigate ethical concerns in the interactions between physicians and the pharmaceutical industry. (13 marks)

## 5. (25 marks)

Dr. X is an infectious disease specialist working at a major urban hospital. During a severe outbreak of a highly contagious and deadly virus, hospitals are overwhelmed with patients, and healthcare workers face significant personal risk due to limited protective equipment. Several of Dr. X's colleagues have contracted the virus, and some have died. Despite the risks, Dr. X continues treating patients. However, she begins to experience anxiety and exhaustion, fearing for her health and that of her family. Some of her colleagues have refused to work, citing personal safety and inadequate institutional support. The hospital administration has reminded all staff of their professional duty to care for patients but has not been able to guarantee their safety.

- a) Analyze Dr. X's ethical dilemma in the above narrative (12.5 marks)
- b) Discuss 5 roles of healthcare institutions in managing the dilemma (12.5 marks).

## 6. (25 marks)

1. Discuss how religious beliefs shape ethical debates on contraception giving 3 examples to illustrate your answer. (15 marks)
2. Analyze 4 ethical implications of fertility preservation for transgender individuals undergoing medical transition. (10 marks)