



AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

END OF THIRRD SEMESTER EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2023

MBE 716: CLINICAL ETHICS

Date :

TIME : Three (3) Hours Start-----End.....

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
- 4) Use the university examination booklets provided
- 5) Write your student registration number on all your answer sheets

Note:

Section A : answer all questions 60 marks.

Section B: two questions of your choice -40 marks each 20 marks.

SECTION A (Answer all Questions)

1. JoJo is a 27-year motor mechanic known to be using recreational narcotic drugs. He informs his house mate that he is unwell. He has fever, abdominal pain and has been vomiting on and off for about 12 hours. The house mate inquires from him where he has been, but he is unable to remember and he does not even remember how he got home

last night nor does he know what day of the week it is. The house mate asks him if he would like to be taken to hospital. He agrees and is taken to hospital After examination by the doctor, Jojo is found to have acute appendicitis. He is informed that he must have surgery urgently and that delay in doing surgery may lead to serious complications and death.

- a. **Explain the process that the doctor should use to obtain Informed Consent for the urgent surgery (10Marks)**
 - b. **Give ethical justification for the process(10 marks)**
2. Mary's older cousin has requested her to be artificially inseminated with her husband's sperm. This will enable the couple to have a child of their own after trying to conceive for the past 8 years. If Mary carries the child to term and relinquishes all parental rights after delivery, her cousin has offered to relocate her from the village, enrol her in the university and fund her education and living expenses for the duration of her study. Discuss any ethical concerns that may arise in this case (20 marks). Discuss the composition, roles and responsibilities of a research ethics committee when compared to a research ethics committee.
- a. **What challenges might such committees face in Low and Middle income country (LMIC) settings?**
 - b. **What steps would you recommend for mitigating against such challenges ? (20 Marks)**
3. Mary is a 3-year-old child receiving treatment for a serious heart condition in a city hospital. The parents were informed by the medical team that continuation of active treatment was prolonging the child's suffering and would not improve her condition. However, they did not want treatment to be discontinued. Gradually over several weeks, Mary's condition worsened. The treating physician then took the case to the ethics consultative services at the hospital.
- a. **What concerns do you think the treating physician may raise ? (10 marks)**
 - b. **Discuss the options of the hospital ethics committee in addressing the concerns listed. (10 marks)**

SECTION B (Answer any 2 questions)

4. A patient is admitted to the hospital and placed in a shared room. A nurse comes to administer his medications, but inadvertently gives his pills to the other patient in the room. The other patient recognizes that these are not his medications and alerts the nurse. She then gives the medications to the correct patient.

- a. **What is the ethical concern in this case scenario(10 marks)**
 - b. **Should any further action be taken? (10 marks)**
5. Beauty is a 23-year-old female university final year student. Her college mates have noticed that she frequently gets into periods of excitement when she is very energetic and happy. She also has periods when she is withdrawn, quiet and sad. During periods of excitement, she is known to be sexually permissive and engages in sexual activity with multiple partners. Beauty's parents learned about her behaviour and were concerned that she may have mental illness and that she may get pregnant. On the request of the parents, Beauty agreed to see a doctor. The parents informed the doctor that they wished to have their daughter examined and treated for mental illness and also to be provided with long-acting contraceptive injections to prevent her from getting pregnant. Beauty was cooperative during the consultation and the examination by the doctor went well. The doctor then informed Beauty and her parents that she had a mental condition called Bipolar which could be treated effectively using oral medicines. He also informed Beauty that the request by the parents for her to receive long-acting injectable contraceptives was reasonable and should be considered. Beauty replied that she was not ill and would not accept treatment. She also refused the advice to have injectable contraceptives saying they would make her sterile.
 - a. **What should the doctor do? (10 marks)**
 - b. **Give justification for your choice of action using ethical principles (10 marks)**
6. Dr. Janet, a nutritionist at a major hospital, is approached by a pharmaceutical agent with the invitation to deliver a lecture on nutritional requirements in critically ill patients at a conference organized at a resort hotel in a popular tourist location. Her travel and stay will be fully funded by the company.
 - a. **Is there any ethical concern with regards to this invitation (10 marks)**
 - b. **if you are the hospital Chief Executive Officer would you approve the trip ? (10 marks)**
7. Mueni is a 15-year-old girl in form 3 and has her first boyfriend. She visits the family planning clinic and asks the healthcare provider to put her on a contraceptive. This is because she thinks her boyfriend might ask her for sex and she does not want to get pregnant and ruin her school attendance or her future.
 - a. **Discuss the ethial diliemna the health care worker may face and what options are possible for appropriate management of this case and why. (10 marks).**
 - b. **Use any philosophical/ ethical theories that may justify your choice. (10 marks).**

8. In country MAHALI PAZURI, there is discussion on a law that will allow doctors to assist terminally patients undergoing unbearable suffering to end their lives. A group of doctors are opposed to such a law, arguing that it may eventually lead to patients who are not terminally ill going through the process.
- a. Discuss the doctors concern, what ethical dilimna this presents(10marks)
 - b. Provide your opinion on the law justifying whichever option you support . (10marks)

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