



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 SEMESTER EXAMINATION JANUARY-APRIL 2026

MAIN EXAM

UNIT CODE: HMD 134: UNIT NAME: INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH LAWS AND REGULATIONS

TIME: Two Hours

DATE: 13th April, 2026

TIME : Two (2) Hours **Start---9:00AM-----End...11:00AM...**

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

This exam is out of 70 marks

Section-A is compulsory with a Total of 30 Marks

Answer any TWO (2) questions in Section B

Read carefully the additional instructions preceding each section.

Section-A ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS (30 Marks)

1. State three characteristics of law. (3 Marks)
2. Outline three functions of public health law. (3 Marks)
3. Highlight four elements required for valid consent. (4 Marks)
4. State four legal consequences of professional negligence. (4 Marks)
5. Mention four ethical principles in healthcare. (4 Marks)
6. State four human rights instruments influencing health law. (4 Marks)
7. Identify four legal remedies available to patients. (4 Marks)
8. Outline four characteristics of professional regulation in health. (4 Marks)

Section B Answer any TWO (2) questions 20 Marks each

9. Kisiwa County Referral Hospital has recently faced several legal and ethical challenges. A patient admitted with a serious infection was treated without being adequately informed about the procedures involved. Later, the patient developed complications and complained that consent had not been properly obtained. At the same time, an inspection by public health officers revealed that the hospital had poor medical waste disposal practices, exposing staff and nearby communities to hazardous materials. Additionally, some healthcare workers were reported to be practicing without valid professional licenses, and there were concerns about patient records being accessed by unauthorized individuals.

The county health department launched an investigation and emphasized that health laws and regulations exist to guide healthcare practice, protect patient rights, regulate professional conduct, and ensure safety in healthcare facilities.

Using the scenario above, discuss the importance of health law in healthcare practice.
(20 Marks)

10. In Baraka Town, a rapidly spreading outbreak of a highly infectious disease has been reported. Several residents have developed severe symptoms, and laboratory tests confirmed the disease to be highly contagious and capable of spreading through close contact. The county public health department quickly intervened to control the outbreak.

Public health officers ordered mandatory screening, isolation of infected patients, and vaccination of individuals who had been in close contact with confirmed cases. Some residents objected to these measures, arguing that they had not given informed consent for testing, isolation, or vaccination. One individual who was forcibly isolated claimed that his personal autonomy and right to refuse treatment had been violated.

The county health authorities defended their actions by stating that during serious public health threats, certain exceptions to informed consent are permitted under public health laws in order to protect the wider community.

Using the case scenario above, examine five public health exceptions to informed consent and discuss their legal justification.(20 Marks)

11. A 14-year-old girl named Amina visits a county health clinic accompanied by her friend, complaining of severe abdominal pain and symptoms of a possible sexually transmitted infection. The attending healthcare provider recommends laboratory tests and treatment. However, Amina requests that the health worker should not inform her parents, stating that she is afraid they will punish her.

At the same time, a 16-year-old boy arrives at the same facility requesting HIV testing and counseling, but he has come alone without a parent or guardian. The healthcare workers are unsure whether they can legally provide the services without parental consent.

The situation creates confusion among the healthcare staff about legal requirements and ethical responsibilities when dealing with minors in healthcare decisions.

Using the case scenario above:

A) Discuss consent for minors in relation to law and human health.(8 Marks)

B) Discuss four challenges associated with obtaining consent for minors in healthcare.
(12 Marks)