



AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION

XXXX 2026

UNIT CODE: MAP 718 **UNIT NAME:** PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEILLANCE
DATE:
TIME: Three **Start:** XXX Hours **Finish:** XXX Hours

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This exam is marked out of 100 marks
2. This Examination comprises TWO Sections
Section A: Compulsory Question (25 marks)
Section B: Long Answer Questions (75 marks)

SECTION A: COMPULSORY (25 Marks)

Short Answer Questions (each question carries 5 marks)

1. Discuss three ways in which surveillance is used in public health practice
2. Discuss three properties of an Ideal Surveillance System
3. Explain the criteria used to prioritize a public health problem
4. Discuss the overall goal of public health surveillance
5. Public Health Surveillance relies on collection of high-quality health data. Identify any five sources of public health data (5 marks)

SECTION B (Set 5 Questions): answer any three
ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS (75 Marks)

6. You have been tasked by the cabinet Secretary for Health to form a rapid response team to investigate an outbreak. Identify the steps involved in conducting a Public Health field investigation (25 Marks)
7. Differentiate the surveillance systems used in public health surveillance particularly passive, active, and syndromic systems while articulating the precise scenarios in which health authorities deploy each approach at national, regional and global levels (25 Marks)
8. Discuss the methods used to collect public health surveillance data (25 Marks)
9. Answer the following questions
 - a. Describe how you will establish a community-based surveillance system (10 marks)
 - b. Discuss the five (5) types of data that will be collected at the community level including at the dispensaries (5 marks)
 - c. Justify the partnerships that you need to create to make your surveillance system comprehensive (10 Marks)

10. Long Answer Questions. Read the passage below and use it to answer the following questions

You have been selected as the Director General for Health in your country. In one of the meetings with the staff, you realize that data collection from the field is based on thirty-six (36) indicators despite presence of other important and emerging conditions. This system is used to monitor trends, monitor known diseases, and trigger alerts when specific thresholds are met, often focusing on a predefined list of priority diseases. You decide to initiate partnerships with the community and other government agencies to increase the scope of the existing system and increase the rate of reporting. Meanwhile, it is reported that there is an outbreak of a strange condition that affects young boys and girls in one of the villages. The newspapers have speculated that the disease could have crossed the border and reached the neighboring country.

- a) Identify the type of surveillance system used in the country (2 marks)
- b) Discuss while providing examples for each, five (5) weaknesses associated with this type of surveillance system (13 Marks)
- c) Explain three (3) indicators used to monitor disease evolution in the country (5 marks)
- d) Explain why you would compliment this system with the event-based surveillance system (3 marks)