

**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO**

**SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR MSc FOR (COMMUNITY**  
**MEDICINE) SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

**Time:** 1.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Answer **all five** questions.

Answer each question in a **separate book**.

Master  
Copy  
D. J. Jayasinghe  
24/09/2020

**PART A**

1. “Several countries have demonstrated that COVID-19 transmission from one person to another can be slowed or stopped. The key actions to stop transmission include **active case finding**, care and **isolation**, **contact tracing**, and **quarantine**” (WHO).
  - 1.1. Explain the terms which are underlined in the statement given above. (20 marks)
  - 1.2. Briefly describe the public health measures taken to control the COVID-19 in the community during the initial stage of the pandemic in Sri Lanka. (50 marks)
  - 1.3. Outline the challenges faced in controlling the COVID-19 pandemic in Sri Lanka. (30 marks)
2. Infant mortality rate in Sri Lanka has remained static during last few years as shown in the table below.

Year	Infant Mortality Rate (1000 live births)
2015	9.2
2016	8.2
2017	9.0
2018	9.1

*Source: Annual Report Family Health Bureau, Sri Lanka*

- 2.1. Define the term ‘Infant Mortality Rate’. (10 marks)
- 2.2. List five main reasons for infant mortality in Sri Lanka. (20 marks)
- 2.3. Explain the reasons for the above trend. (30 marks)
- 2.4. Briefly describe the importance of Feto-Infant death surveillance. (40 marks)

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3. Write short notes on the following.
- 3.1. School Canteen Policy practised in Sri Lanka. (30 marks)
- 3.2. Emerging and re-emerging infections. (40 marks)
- 3.3. Occupational health hazards of healthcare workers. (30 marks)

Mervin Dissanayake  
21/9/2026

### Part B

4. A researcher conducted a case-control study to identify the sociocultural and environmental risk factors of leprosy in Colombo District.
- 4.1. Mention an appropriate control group for this study giving reasons. (20 marks)
- 4.2. Briefly state the advantages of using case-control design for this study. (20 marks)
- 4.3. Overcrowded households were identified as a risk factor with OR = 4.5 (CI: 1.5 to 13.6), interpret this finding. (20 marks)
- 4.4. Describe the socio-cultural consequences of leprosy in Sri Lanka. (40 marks)
5. Elderly population is rapidly increasing in the country. According to the 2012 Population and Housing Census Statistics, Sri Lankan elderly population is 12.4% of the total population.
- 5.1. Explain the term "demographic transition". (15 marks)
- 5.2. Mention three (03) key factors for increasing elderly population in the country. (15 marks)
- 5.3. Briefly describe health and social implications of ageing. (30 marks)
- 5.4. Discuss elderly care services in the country to meet implications of ageing. (40 marks)