

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN HEALTH SECTOR DISASTER
MANAGEMENT EXAMINATION – FEBRUARY 2017

Date :- 21st February 2017

Time :- 1.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

STRUCTURED ESSAY QUESTION PAPER (SEQ)

Answer all five (05) questions.

Each question to be answered in a separate book.

1. It is a Monday morning. “Udarata Menike” train which left Badulla at 5.45 a.m. to Colombo has derailed due to heavy rains, close to Hali Ela station which is 5.8 km from Badulla. Last 3 passenger compartments which got disconnected from the rest have fallen down a precipice with more than 150 passengers. Provincial General Hospital (PGH), Badulla has been informed of the disaster situation.
 - 1.1. Briefly describe the problems you would encounter as the pre-hospital care team leader in this situation. (30 marks)
 - 1.2. List five (05) organisations from which assistance could be obtained during pre-hospital care. (10 marks)
 - 1.3. Briefly outline how you would triage the victims at the scene. (20 marks)
 - 1.4. List five (05) medico-legal issues doctors have to address in the hospital in this situation. (10 marks)
 - 1.5. Describe necessary steps in managing unidentified bodies in this situation. (30 marks)

2. A foreign team is coming to provide psychosocial and mental health services after a plane crash that has occurred in your area killing everyone in the plane and many in the town. You are the Disaster Management Focal Point responsible for coordinating health services there.
 - 2.1. What information would you gather from the visiting team when you interview them? (35 marks)
 - 2.2. List five (05) officers in the Government sector you would contact to coordinate the services of the visiting team. (20 marks)
 - 2.3. Briefly describe the ethical problems that may arise by their service provision, information gathering and research. (45 marks)

3. You are the Disaster Management Focal Point of District General Hospital, Hambantota located in close proximity to Hambantota sea port. You are informed that about twenty of the crew from a ship sailing from Africa, is suspected to be infected with Ebola virus. They are expected to be transferred to the hospital within the next hour or two.
 - 3.1. Anticipating a situation of this nature, what are the preparatory activities that should have been done beforehand in the hospital? (30 marks)
 - 3.2. Outline the steps you would take to manage this situation in the hospital. (50 marks)
 - 3.3. Describe briefly how the media should be handled in this situation. (20 marks)

4. You are the Disaster Management Focal Point at the Office of the Provincial Director of Health Services, North Central Province. The Department of Meteorology has forecasted a long-term drought commencing from August 2017 affecting mainly the North Central Province.
 - 4.1. List five (05) health related issues that could arise as a result of the drought. (15 marks)
 - 4.2. List five (05) non-health related issues that could arise as a result of the drought. (15 marks)
 - 4.3. Briefly outline the information needed to develop a disaster preparedness plan for the proper functioning of the hospitals in the province during the drought period? (30 marks)
 - 4.4. Briefly outline the information needed to develop a disaster preparedness plan for the maintenance of preventive health services in the province during the drought period. (40 marks)

5. Write short notes.
 - 5.1. Safe Hospital Initiative. (25 marks)
 - 5.2. Disaster Management Act of Sri Lanka. (25 marks)
 - 5.3. Essential reproductive health services following disasters. (25 marks)
 - 5.4. Nutritional assessment in disasters. (25 marks)