

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN
HEALTH SECTOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT – DECEMBER 2015

Date :- 4th December 2015

Time :- 1.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

STRUCTURED ESSAY QUESTION PAPER

Answer all five (05) questions.

Answer each question in a separate book.

1. You are the Medical Officer in Charge (MOIC) of a hospital near the Colombo - Matara highway.
 - 1.1. Describe the facilities you would make ready in your hospital to treat casualties from road traffic accidents. (40 marks)
 - 1.2. Describe the steps you would take to ensure that your institution is prepared for the smooth handling of casualties from a major road traffic accident in the highway involving several vehicles.(40 marks)
 - 1.3. List the non-health organizations that would be involved in managing this situation. (20 marks)

2. A food poisoning outbreak was reported at a convention in a remote area in the Kandy district attended by about 750 delegates.
 - 2.1. What are the clinical features of food poisoning? (20 marks)
 - 2.2. What are the factors that could have contributed to this outbreak? (15 marks)
 - 2.3. As the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) of the area, what preparations would you and your team take to investigate the outbreak? (40 marks)
 - 2.4. Outline the information you would convey to the nearby Divisional Hospital to manage the patients. (25 marks)

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3. You are the Disaster Management Focal Point in a base hospital. The Medical Superintendent informs you on a Monday that a multistory factory building has collapsed and a large number of casualties are expected at the hospital.
- 3.1. List the persons to be included in the hospital team that should be sent to the site with a justification for each person. (20 marks)
 - 3.2. If you are the team leader in the team that is sent out, how would you plan if a large number of casualties are to be transported to the hospital? (40 marks)
 - 3.3. If you are the triage team leader in the hospital, what steps would you take to manage the dead bodies brought to the hospital? (40 marks)
4. It is 8.00 a.m. on Monday. A powerful earthquake of the magnitude of 10.0 on Richter scale has occurred in the Pacific Ocean 2000 km south of Sri Lanka. The Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System has issued a strong tsunami warning to Sri Lanka. Accordingly, the tsunami waves are expected to reach the southern and south western coasts of Sri Lanka in 4 hours. The tsunami waves are expected to reach at least 1 km distance inland from the coast. The Sri Lankan government has declared a state of emergency and Police has requested the public to immediately evacuate the said coastal areas up to 1 km at least.
- 4.1. List the regional health sector problems that could arise due to this situation. (25 marks)
 - 4.2. Describe briefly the measures you would take to overcome those problems, if you are;
 - 4.2.1. the Medical Officer, Planning (MO, Planning) attached to the RDHS Office, Matara which is situated within 0.5 km from the southern coast. (25 marks)
 - 4.2.2. the Director of the District General Hospital, Matara situated 1 km from the southern coast. (25 marks)
 - 4.2.3. the Medical Superintendent (MS) of the Base Hospital Kamburupitiya which is situated 25 km from the southern coast. (25 marks)

5. Influx of a large number of refugees to Europe from the Middle East dominates worldwide media today.

- 5.1. List the health and non-health problems that can be expected from this crisis. (30 marks)
- 5.2. What measures should be in place in the countries receiving the refugees? (30 marks)
- 5.3. Describe long term implications to a country from the migration of refugees. (40 marks)