

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN
HEALTH SECTOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT – DECEMBER 2017

Date :- 5th December 2017

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. It is 10.00 a.m. on a Sunday. A large boat carrying about 100 people has capsized in Maadu river Balapitiya, following heavy rains on the previous day. The victims are being rescued now. Base Hospital (BH) Balapitiya has been informed of the incident.
 - 1.1. As the Medical Superintendent, BH Balapitiya, briefly describe five (05) measures that you would take to ensure maximum care for the affected during this disaster situation. (20 marks)
 - 1.2.
 - 1.2.1. Name five (05) problems that could arise due to arrival of a large number of casualties in the hospital. (10 marks)
 - 1.2.2. Briefly mention how you would overcome each of the above in 1.2.1. (20 marks)
 - 1.3. Describe briefly the initial steps of resuscitation of a critically injured victim brought to BH, Balapitiya. (30 marks)
 - 1.4. What suggestions would you make to the Disaster Management Centre as the Medical officer (Disaster Management) attached to the RDHS office, Galle, regarding the prevention of similar disasters in this region, in future? (20 marks)
2. Write short notes on any four (04) of the following: (25 marks each)
 - 2.1. Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear hazards.
 - 2.2. Role of Disaster Management Centre in Sri Lanka.
 - 2.3. Risk assessment in disasters.
 - 2.4. Safe hospital initiative.
 - 2.5. Importance of disaster victim identification.

3. The slip of the garbage dump at Meethotamulla in April 2017 was a type of disaster that Sri Lanka experienced for the first time.
- 3.1. List five (05) factors that may have contributed to this disaster. (20 marks)
 - 3.2. Describe the relief activities that need to be arranged within the first 24 hours after such a disaster. (50 marks)
 - 3.3. Describe briefly the important actions that could have been taken beforehand by the authorities and the community in the area, to prevent such a disaster. (30 marks)
4. You are living in the 12th floor in a 16 storied condominium. A fire breaks out at 1.00 a.m. on the 7th floor in an apartment, close to the exit staircase blocking the evacuation.
- 4.1. Mention five (05) possible injuries that could occur as a result of above incident. (15 marks)
 - 4.2. List five (05) possible causes of death in a similar disaster. (15 marks)
 - 4.3. Describe how the evacuation should be done. (40 marks)
 - 4.4. State five (05) safety features that should be there in a condominium to face a similar situation. (30 marks)
- 5.
- 5.1. List five (05) most vulnerable groups to be affected psychosocially after a disaster. (25 marks)
 - 5.2. Name five (05) different categories of health professionals who could help to provide psychosocial services for the above groups. (15 marks)
 - 5.3. Describe the different ways, how one of the groups mentioned by you in question 5.1., could be affected psychosocially after a disaster. (60 marks)