

Mark 6/10

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

MD (COMMUNITY MEDICINE/COMMUNITY DENTISTRY) THEORY
EXAMINATION (NEW PROSPECTUS) – JANUARY 2019

Date :- 08th January 2019

Time :- 9.30 a.m – 11.30 a.m

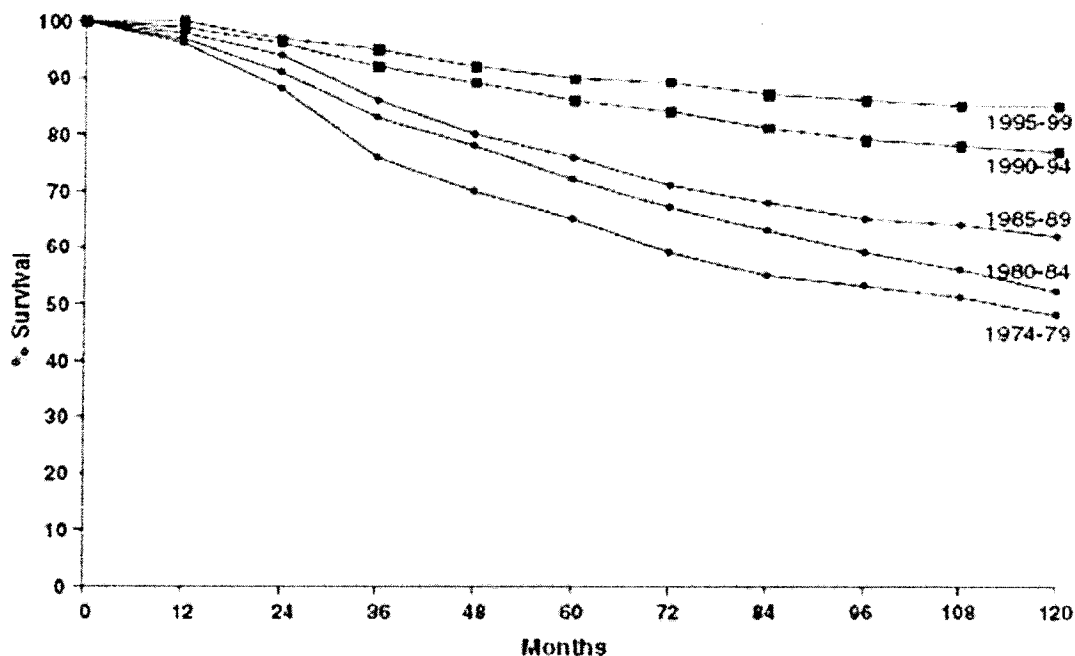
PAPER I

Answer **all four (04)** questions.

Answer each question in a separate book.

01. Results relating to the survival of successive cohorts of women diagnosed with breast cancer were published from a developed country and are illustrated in the figure. A national programme of breast cancer screening was introduced in 1989.

Breast cancer specific survival in 5-year cohorts defined by date of diagnosis between 1974 and 1999



Contd...../2-

1.1. Give three possible explanations for the larger change between the 1985-1989 and the 1990-1994 cohorts compared with the changes between the other cohorts. (30 marks)

1.2. Name and explain a bias associated with such a finding (10 marks)

1.3. Describe two other important features of the data shown in the figure. (20 marks)

Further survival information is provided in the table below.

Overall survival (%) in the 1980-1984 and 1990-1994 diagnostic cohorts at 5, 10 and 15 years of follow-up

% Survival	% Survival in		Proportional Risk Reduction
	1980-1984	1990-1994	
At 5 years	73	88	0.56
At 10 years	55	80	0.56
At 15 years	46	78	0.59

1.4. What does the term 'proportional risk reduction' mean and how was it calculated? (20 marks)

1.5. Write a brief press release of not more than 150 words for inclusion in a local newspaper, summarizing the findings given in the table above, and their interpretation. (20 marks)

Contd...../3-

02. A postgraduate trainee conducted a study to determine the diagnostic accuracy of a new tool for a disease. The expected prevalence of the disease in the population was 20%. It was revealed that the sensitivity and specificity of the new tool was 90% and 80% respectively, in detecting the disease.

2.1. Briefly describe a design for the above study, including measures to minimise bias. (30 Marks)

2.2. Calculate the sample size considering the expected sensitivity and specificity of the tool as 90% and 90% respectively. (20 marks)

2.3. Calculate and interpret the positive likelihood ratio. (20 Marks)

2.4. Calculate and interpret the post-test probability of the new tool. (30 Marks)

3.

3.1.

3.1. 1.What is a twin study? (10 marks)

3. 1.2.What specific information can be collected by conducting twin studies? (20 marks)

3.2. From a public health perspective, 'Population attributable risk' is more useful than the 'attributable risk'. Discuss this statement with an example (40 marks)

3.3.

3.3.1. What is preventive fraction? (10 marks)

3.3.2.Describe the preventive fraction with a hypothetical example.

(20marks)

4.

4.1. There are criticisms that Prevention of Mosquito Breeding Act has gaps, and should be amended,

4.1.1. Describe the gaps in the above legislation. (40 marks)

4.1.2 List three (03) amendments you suggest to address the gaps identified. (15 marks)

4.2. Decentralization of health services was done through the 13th Amendment to the Constitution. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of decentralization of healthcare services. (45 marks)

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MD (COMMUNITY MEDICINE/CPMMUNITY DENTISTRY) THEORY
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Date :- 09th January 2019

Time :- 9.30 a.m – 11.30 a.m

PAPER II

Answer **all four (04)** questions.

Answer each question in a separate book.

1.

1.1. Discuss strengths and weaknesses of health promotion as a strategic financial investment. (75 marks)

1.2. List factors which should be prioritized in developing indicators for health promotion. (25 marks)

2.

2.1. List the elements used to ascertain trustworthiness in qualitative research giving examples. (20 marks)

2.2. Briefly describe inductive approach in qualitative data analysis. (30 marks)

2.3. School canteen guidelines was introduced in 2007 as a tool to promote healthy food habits among school children in order to combat the emerging non communicable disease epidemic in the country. However, there are concerns on the practical application of those guidelines in the present context of trade and economic policies.

Discuss the importance of policy coherence in relation to school canteen guidelines providing specific examples to highlight limitations and contradictions.

(50 marks)

Contd...../2-

3.

3.1. Describe the role of the Consultant Community Physician (Planning) in strategic planning of health services in the province. (60 marks)

3.2. Discuss the current deficiencies for capacity development of primary health care staff in a province. (40 marks)

4.

4.1. List four (04) reasons why the healthcare market is more complex than the market for banking services. (20 Marks)

4.2.

4.2.1. What is meant by worker productivity? (05 marks)

4.2.2. What measures can be taken at national and institutional levels to improve worker productivity in the health sector in Sri Lanka?

(25 Marks)

4.3. Describe the changes that should be made, with regard to the following to improve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Sri Lanka today:

4.3.1. provision of services (25 marks)

4.3.2. health financing (25 marks)