

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

MD (PSYCHIATRY) EXAMINATION (NEW SYLLABUS) –
OCTOBER 2012

Date :- 1st October 2012

Time :- 11.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

ESSAY PAPER

Answer only one out of the three questions.

1. In essay form, critically discuss the following statement from different points of view and provide your conclusions.

“Despite public- education efforts depression frequently carries a stigma and may be viewed as moral weakness or character flaw”

2. In essay form, critically discuss this statement from different points of view.

“In the majority of (psychiatric) patients worldwide, poly-pharmacy is practiced in the face of all guidelines and textbooks on psychopharmacology and the discussion is ongoing as to whether it is our practice or our guidelines that are at fault...”

3. The current National Mental Health policy covers the period from 2005 to 2015. You have been requested by the health authorities to formulate a new Mental Health Policy for next ten years.

Outline and discuss your potential policy for the period of ten years from 2015.

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Date :- 1st October 2012

Time :- 1.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.

STRUCTURED ESSAY PAPER

Answer **all six** questions

Each question to be answered **in a separate book**

1. The police bring a 68-year-old man to the Outpatient Department after he has assaulted his wife from whom he is separated. He states that he has developed an itinerant lifestyle, where he moves from place to place, in order to prevent his family from harassing him and stealing his possessions.
 - 1.1. Discuss your assessment (50 marks)
 - 1.2. Describe the management (50 marks)

2. You work as the sole general psychiatrist in a District General Hospital. A medical colleague asks you to see her 15 year-old-daughter urgently. She tells you that she has just read her daughter's diary and saw reference to a plan to take an overdose of paracetamol tablets because her boyfriend had broken up with her. She also tells you her daughters grades have been dropping at school over the past year.

Discuss your approach to this request (100 marks)

Contd..../2-

3. An unmarried 17 year old mother has thrown her 8 weeks old baby into a well.
- 3.1. List the diagnostic possibilities (20 marks)
- 3.2. Describe the management of this patient (40 marks)
- 3.3. Discuss the medico-legal aspects of this case (40 marks)
4. Consider cognitive behavior therapy with children
- 4.1. List three (03) clinical conditions in children where cognitive behaviour therapy is used effectively (10 marks)
- 4.2. Outline the essential steps in the procedure in one of the conditions you have mentioned above (45 marks)
- 4.3. Discuss the problems encountered in the practice of cognitive behaviour therapy in children with a special reference to the Sri Lankan context (45 marks)
5. A 38 year old father of 2 children was referred to you by the medical officer of mental health (MOMH) for further management. The patient has been consuming large quantities of alcohol over the last 20 years with evidence of withdrawal symptoms and tolerance. He also has strong craving and does not like to stop alcohol.
- He states that his wife is unfaithful and suspects that she has many boyfriends. MOMH has treated him with risperidone 2mg nocte. The patient is experiencing erectile failure.
- 5.1. List the diagnostic possibilities (20 marks)
- 5.2. Outline the possible causes for erectile failure in this patient (20 marks)
- 5.3. List with reasons for the relevant further investigations (20 marks)
- 5.4. Describe the management of this patient (40 marks)

6. Mr. AB is a 46 year old man, who has been referred by the high court for psychiatric assessment. He is charged for serious assault of his neighbour. It is known that Mr. AB has Schizophrenia manifested by delusions and auditory hallucinations. He has a property dispute with his neighbour that has resulted in a lawsuit. Mr. AB believed that this neighbour was transmitting lethal brain waves. On the day of the offence Mr. AB telephoned this neighbour, demanding that the neighbour should stop sending the brain waves. Mr. AB also complained to the police that his neighbour had trespassed on his property. It is alleged that when Mr. AB encountered his neighbour he said

“I gave you a chance - now you are going to pay”.

Then he struck the neighbour several times with an axe which he subsequently disposed of.

- 6.1. List the specific forensic psychiatric issues to be considered (10 marks)
- 6.2. Describe the legally defined terms and criteria of insanity defense in the penal code of Sri Lanka (30 marks)
- 6.3. Using the relevant data given in the scenario above, give your medico-legal opinion (60 marks)