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**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO**

**POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN VENEREOLOGY EXAMINATION –**  
**JUNE 2016**

**PAPER I**  
**(ESSAY TYPE QUESTIONS)**

**Date :- 7<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**Time :- 1.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.**

**Answer all questions.**

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

1. Sri Lanka is currently having a low level HIV epidemic where HIV prevalence among high risk populations is consistently below 5% and the prevalence among general population is below 1%.

1.1. Discuss the factors that have contributed to the low level HIV epidemic in Sri Lanka. (60 marks)

1.2. Describe the new approaches that are recently adopted to strengthen the existing prevention efforts in Sri Lanka. (40 marks)

2. A researcher conducted a cross sectional study to assess the relationship between intimate partner violence and diagnosis of sexually transmitted infections (STI) among women.

2.1. List the eligibility criteria of the study population. (15 marks)

2.2. Describe the precautions that the researcher should take to minimise measurement errors in this study. (25 marks)

2.3. The following results were obtained. Interpret the findings. (45 marks)

Experienced intimate partner violence	Diagnosed with STI	
	Yes	No
Yes	25	55
No	15	65

2.4. The researcher plans to test the hypothesis formulated in the above study. State the most appropriate study design, giving reasons. (15 marks)

3. A 25-year-old unmarried asymptomatic male presented to the HIV clinic, Colombo with a confirmatory HIV positive test report. His CD4 count is 340 cell/ $\mu$ l.

3.1. Give the baseline investigations you would arrange for this patient, giving reasons. (30 marks)

3.2. How do you prepare this patient for antiretroviral therapy (ART) provided that all baseline investigations are normal? (50 marks)

3.3. Write a suitable ART regimen you would consider for this patient, giving reasons. (20 marks)

4. According to the annual statistics of a peripheral STD clinic, a significant increase in HIV and early syphilis cases was noted. Majority of these patients gave a history of male to male sexual exposures.

4.1. Discuss possible reasons for the above observation. (40 marks)

4.2. If you were the medical officer in charge of this peripheral STD clinic, describe the plan of action you would propose to address this situation. (60 marks)

5. Hepatitis B infection is considered as a significant global health issue.

5.1. Outline six (06) measures that are in place to control hepatitis B virus infection in the STD clinic settings in Sri Lanka. (30 marks)

5.2. List three (03) additional activities carried out by the Department of Health to control hepatitis B virus infection in Sri Lanka. (30 marks)

5.3. Describe the strategies you would consider in order to further strengthen the national response to hepatitis B virus infection in the country. (40 marks)