

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

MD (VENEREOLOGY) EXAMINATION – DECEMBER 2015

Date : 15th December 2015

Time: 1.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

PAPER I

Answer all questions.

Each question to be answered in a separate book.

1. A 25-year-old HIV positive female professional is getting married to a HIV-negative male. Her CD4 count is 600 cells/ μ L and has no other co-morbidities. Her partner is aware of her HIV positive status. She is not convinced that she should initiate ART as she is still healthy.
 - 1.1. Outline important points you would consider in counseling her in relation to antiretroviral therapy. (30 marks)
 - 1.1. Discuss the benefits of starting ART with a CD4 count >500 cells/ μ L using evidence from relevant trials. Indicate important details in each trial you would use for evidence. (70 marks)

2. National STD/AIDS Control Programme of Sri Lanka has been carrying out the antiretroviral treatment (ART) programme since 2004.
 - 2.1. Describe the existing mechanism for monitoring the ART programme in Sri Lanka. (50 marks)
 - 2.2. Discuss five (05) important indicators used to evaluate ART programme giving their strengths and limitations. (50 marks)

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3. In a study, among 1500 sero-discordant heterosexual couples followed up at an HIV clinic, 50 HIV negative partners seroconverted over a period of three (03) years.

- 3.1. Calculate the annual incidence of HIV among these people. (10 marks)

The incidence of HIV by Antiretroviral treatment status of the index patient is given below.

	Treatment naïve	On treatment
Sero converted	40	10
Remained negative	960	490
Total	1000	500

- 3.2. Determine the degree to which ART appears to prevent transmission of HIV among sero-discordant couples. (20 marks)
- 3.3. List two (02) statistical tests that can be used to analyse this data. (20 marks)
- 3.4. Discuss five (05) confounding factors that should be taken into consideration before we could conclude that this difference in incidence is due to ART given to index patients. (50 marks)
- 4.
- 4.1. Outline the components you would consider in establishing a comprehensive care service for adult female victims of sexual assault. (50 marks)
- 4.2. Discuss the advantages and limitations of providing such a service through STD Clinics. (50 marks)