

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN
HEALTH SECTOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT – DECEMBER 2021

Date :- 6th December 2021

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. Monsoon rains have caused floods in Kalutara district and a massive landslide in Mathugama has caused destruction of a village with about 100 houses. About 75 people have been rescued with various injuries and are awaiting transport to hospital. Further 50 people are believed to be missing.
 - 1.1. List five (05) regional institutions capable of aiding in the above disaster situation. (10 marks)
 - 1.2. List ten (10) problems encountered by the rescue teams reaching the disaster location. (20 marks)
 - 1.3. Name five (05) life threatening injuries which should be addressed by the rescue team immediately. (10 marks)
 - 1.4. Briefly describe ten (10) measures which should be taken by the director of the closest hospital. (40 marks)
 - 1.5. As a trainee in disaster management, make ten (10) suggestions to avoid such disasters or minimize damage during such disasters in vulnerable areas in the future. (20 marks)

2. Sri Lanka experienced two major waves of COVID-19 infection in October 2020 and May 2021. Expansion of services were necessary due to increased demands on the curative and preventive health services.
- 2.1. List five (05) major curative health services that could be implemented as service expansion. (20 marks)
- 2.2. List five (05) major preventive health services that could be implemented as service expansion. (20 marks)
- 2.3. Describe briefly, the steps that could have been taken beforehand to face such increased demand in a hospital if you are the director of the hospital. (40 marks)
- 2.4. Briefly describe the impact of vaccination in the management of COVID-19 infection. (20 marks)
3. A divisional secretariat area with a population of 200,000 had to be locked down for a period of one month as a result of emergence of a new and virulent variant of COVID-19 and the supply chain was disrupted. You are the Medical Officer of Health of the area.
- 3.1. List three (03) probable issues related to immunization of infants in this area. (15 marks)
- 3.2. Briefly describe the measures you would take to provide services to pregnant mothers in this area. (30 marks)
- 3.3. Schools have been closed for nearly two years due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3.3.1. List the main psycho-social issues faced by the school going children in the area. (20 marks)
- 3.3.2. Briefly describe how you would mitigate these issues. (35 marks)

4.

- 4.1. Describe the disaster management cycle. (30 marks)
- 4.2. What is a cyclone? (10 marks)
- 4.3. What are the types of cyclones? (10 marks)
- 4.4. List ten (10) actions you would take as the Regional Director of Health Services in a cyclone hit coastal area. (50 marks)

5. Little Sherifa was only three-years-old when the deadly Tsunami hit her home in Galle in 2004. Her parents were searching for her all over the country. They could not find her among the dead.

Hope was restored when a relative from Kalmunai brought to the attention of Sherifa's parents, of a girl resembling Sherifa. The parents identified her as their daughter from her bodily marks and other features. However, the parents had to seek the help of courts to obtain the legal rights for their daughter.

Finally, on Wednesday, August 3rd 2016, it was proven before courts that this girl is in fact their daughter, Sherifa.

You are the Medical Officer of Health of Kalmunai.

- 5.1. Briefly describe five (05) health issues Sherifa may have gone through at different ages? (50 marks)
- 5.2. List the action you would take if the villagers complained that there is an adopted girl in their neighbourhood. (35 marks)
- 5.3. List the steps to be taken to prove the paternity scientifically. (15 marks)