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POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN
VENEREOLOGY – SEPTEMBER 2025

Date:- 18th September 2025

Time:- 1.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Answer all five (05) questions.

Answer each question in a separate book.

1. The triple elimination programme is a public health programme endorsed by WHO and UNICEF to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV, syphilis, and hepatitis B. The programme requires coordinated action across many sectors.
 - 1.1. List five (05) main stakeholders involved in triple elimination of HIV, syphilis, and hepatitis B programme in Sri Lanka. (30 marks)
 - 1.2. Describe the role of any three (03) stakeholders listed in 1.1 (70 marks)
2. You are a medical officer working in the outpatient department (OPD) of a base hospital. A 30-year-old female sex worker comes to OPD complaining of lower abdominal pain and discomfort during sexual intercourse for the past 2 weeks.
 - 2.1. List five (05) conditions which can give rise to her presentation. (20 marks)
 - 2.2. Briefly describe the information in the history and signs on examination you would elicit to support the diagnosis of her condition. (50 marks)
 - 2.3. Outline the management aspects of this patient, if the condition is due to a STI related complication. (30 marks)
3. HIV testing is the most important entry point to achieve 95- 95-95 targets to end AIDS in 2030.
 - 3.1. Enumerate five (05) settings where HIV testing services are provided in Sri Lanka other than STD clinics. (30 marks)
 - 3.2. Briefly describe ten (10) clinical conditions that a patient could present to outpatient department (OPD) which warrant HIV testing. (50 marks)
 - 3.3. As the OPD medical officer, describe the initial management of a patient following a positive HIV screening test. (20 marks)

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4. According to UNAIDS 2024 HIV/AIDS statistics, globally 45% of all new HIV infections were among women and girls. Weekly 4000 adolescent girls and young women between 15 - 24 years of age became infected with HIV.
- 4.1. Describe the factors that make women and girls vulnerable for HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STI). (40 marks)
- 4.2. Briefly describe four (04) barriers that could exist in any healthcare system which prevent women from accessing STI/HIV care. (30 marks)
- 4.3. Outline the measures that could be adopted to prevent HIV and STI among women and adolescent girls. (30 marks)
5. A researcher is interested in investigating the association between having multiple sexual partners and cervical cancer using a case-control study.
- 5.1. State two (02) reasons why a case-control study is an appropriate design for answering this research question. (20 marks)
- 5.2. A colleague argues that the selected study design is not suitable as case-control studies are more prone to bias.
List two (02) possible biases that could affect this study. (10 marks)
- 5.3. For each bias mentioned in 5.2, describe one (01) method that could be used to minimize it. (30 marks)
- 5.4. The measure of association between having multiple sexual partners and cervical cancer of this study was found to be 2.5, with a 95% confidence interval of 1.23 to 3.98.
Interpret these results using the appropriate measure of association. (40 marks)