

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN
HEALTH SECTOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT – DECEMBER 2024

Date:- 4th December 2024

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. Health services in the world are now undergoing digital transformation. This transformation can also be used to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of disaster management.
 - 1.1. List five (05) areas in the field of disaster management that can be improved through digitalization. (40 marks)
 - 1.2. Discuss briefly how digital technology would be useful in taking action in the first hour after a disaster involving a large number of casualties. (60 marks)
2. Heavy monsoon rains have caused floods in a Medical Officer of Health (MOH) area. As the area MOH, you are expected to manage this emergency situation.
 - 2.1. List five (05) stakeholders you can collaborate with, to manage this emergency situation. (10 marks)
 - 2.2. Briefly describe three (03) reasons why patients with non-communicable diseases would be more vulnerable to adverse consequences of emergencies. (45 marks)
 - 2.3. Describe three (03) challenges that you would face in managing patients with non-communicable diseases during this emergency situation. (45 marks)
3. Covid-19 has resulted in various challenges during the recent past.
 - 3.1. List five (05) organizations that were involved in preventing introduction of the disease to Sri Lanka. (25 marks)
 - 3.2. List four (04) populations who were more vulnerable to acquire Covid-19. (20 marks)
 - 3.3. Critically analyze the decisions taken in Sri Lanka during Covid-19 pandemic on management of the dead due to Covid-19 and consequences faced later. (55 marks)

4. Accurate prediction of disasters and issuing early warnings are commonly happening all over the world. Sri Lanka is having a robust framework for managing disasters.
- 4.1. Name the legislation governing disaster management in Sri Lanka. (10 marks)
- 4.2.
 - 4.2.1. List four (04) organizations in Sri Lanka responsible for predicting different types of disasters and issuing early warnings to the public. (20 marks)
 - 4.2.2. Name the specific disasters that the organizations listed in 4.2.1 are tasked in managing. (20 marks)
- 4.3. Describe briefly the current arrangements for disaster management at divisional level. (50 marks)
5. There has been a clash between two rival communities. Over 100 individuals, including women and children, were displaced and housed in a community hall. You are the disaster focal point at district level.
 - 5.1. List five (05) health and safety concerns you assess during your visit to the community hall. (20 marks)
 - 5.2. Describe how you would address three (03) issues identified in 5.1. (30 marks)
 - 5.3. Name five (05) organizations in Sri Lanka that could assist in managing psychosocial needs of this population. (20 marks)
 - 5.4. Outline culturally appropriate measures you would take to address the psychosocial needs of children and women in the shelter. (30 marks)