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POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR MD (COMMUNITY
MEDICINE/COMMUNITY DENTISTRY) – JULY 2026

Date:- 31st July 2026

Time:- 9.00 a.m. - 10.00 a.m.

STRUCTURED ESSAY QUESTION PAPER

Answer all two (02) questions.

Answer each question in a separate book.

1. A researcher is interested in finding out about the impact of exposure to cannabis promotion in social media on attitudes related to cannabis among school going adolescents in Sri Lanka.

The researcher decides to include students attending tuition classes for GCE A/L examination in Colombo District. The calculated sample size is 484. Data will be collected using a self-administered questionnaire to be developed by the researcher.

- 1.1. State one (01) advantage and one (01) disadvantage of the selected study setting, giving one (01) reason each for your answers. (20 marks)
- 1.2. Outline the sampling procedure you will utilize in the given setting. (20 marks)
- 1.3. List two (02) ethical issues that need to be addressed in this study. (10 marks)
- 1.4. Briefly describe the data analysis plan for this study, mentioning the statistical test (s) you would use. (30 marks)
- 1.5. Outline how you would validate the questionnaire developed by the researcher. (20 marks)

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2. A research team is planning a three-year community-based health promotion project to reduce obesity among adults in a district. The project includes multiple interventions and plans to collect both qualitative and quantitative data.

2.1. Name the most appropriate study design to assess the effectiveness of this project, justifying your answer. (30 marks)

2.2. The research team is expecting to obtain data from the following sources to plan this project.

State one (01) disadvantage of using data from each source. (20 marks)

2.2.1. Healthy Lifestyle Centre (HLC) related data

2.2.2. Annual Health Bulletin

2.2.3. WHO-STEPs survey

2.2.4. Census data

2.3. List five (05) outcomes that you would measure to evaluate the effectiveness of this health promotion project. (20 marks)

2.4. Briefly describe three (03) challenges of evaluating a health promotion project. (30 marks)