



FACULTY OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA
SECOND EXAMINATION FOR MEDICAL DEGREES
UNIT 4 EXAMINATION
PAPER II-STRUCTURED ESSAY QUESTIONS

Date : 08-01-2018

Time Allowed : 3 hours

INDEX NO:

Answer all questions. Answer each question in the space provided.

✓ 1. A well-dressed middle aged man presents to the Outpatient Department (OPD) of the Colombo North Teaching Hospital complaining of severe abdominal pain and stating that a woman poisoned him.

He collapses immediately and dies.

He has no proof of his identity with him.

1.1. Briefly describe the steps involved in ordering an inquest in this case. (10 marks)

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1.2. State who should carry out the inquest in this case according to the criminal procedure code. (5 marks)

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Since there were no relatives claiming the body a postmortem examination was carried out after two weeks. You are the MO-ML assisting in the postmortem.

1.3. State the samples you wish to obtain in order to confirm or exclude the allegation of poisoning. (10 marks)

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1.4. Outline the steps a Judicial Medical Officer should take to establish the identity of the deceased giving reasons (20 marks)

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1.5. State three (3) likely natural causes of death that would present with abdominal pain and collapse. (15 marks)

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1.6. Describe the expected internal gross autopsy findings in one of the conditions you have mentioned in 1.5. (15 marks)

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One month after the autopsy and burial, the police brings two individuals from two different families. One claims that the body could be that of her missing husband while the other states that it is his missing father.

1.7 Discuss how the Judicial Medical Officer should solve this identity issue. (25 marks)

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✓ 2. A 30-year-old unmarried man was transferred in an unconscious state and admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the Teaching Hospital, Ragama. Pyogenic meningitis was diagnosed and he died despite treatment in the ICU for 3 days. The cause of death was given and body was released to the relations who handed the body over to the undertakers. However, his sister made an allegation that her brother's death was suspicious as the deceased was in the remand prison for one week prior to admission. Further she stated that he was a very healthy person before. She suspects that he was battered while in custody.

2.1 State the legal authority who can give the order for an autopsy in this case giving reasons.

(10 marks)

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You are the Medical Officer Medico Legal assigned to this case.

2.2. List four (04) groups of people you would like to interview to obtain information prior to the autopsy.

(10 marks)

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2.3. Outline four (4) important items of information you will obtain from any of the above groups of people.

(10 marks)

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