



THE COLLEGES OF MEDICINE OF SOUTH AFRICA

Incorporated Association not for gain
Reg No 1955/000003/08

Examination for the Diploma in Forensic Medicine of the
College of Forensic Pathologists of South Africa - Clinical

14 July 2016



Paper 1

(3 hours)

All questions are to be answered. Each question to be answered in a separate book (or books if more than one is required for the one answer)

- 1 A 25-year-old long distance truck driver was arrested at a road block on New Year's Eve on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol
 - a) Write short notes on the Laws in South Africa relating to alcohol and driving. (10)
 - b) Describe your approach to the medico-legal examination and assessment of this truck driver including the precautions that must be observed when taking a blood alcohol sample. (15)[25]
- 2 A 15-year-old male presents to your clinic during the late afternoon and alleges that he was raped by his uncle the previous night. Discuss your approach to the management of this male rape survivor with specific reference to history taking, clinical examination, specimen collection, special investigations, pharmacological treatment and follow-up. [25]
- 3 Write short notes on the following
 - a) The circumstances under which a medical practitioner in South Africa is allowed to breach doctor-patient confidentiality. (5)
 - b) The concept of medical negligence. (5)
 - c) Preservation of "chain of custody." (5)[15]
- 4 Write short notes on the following
 - a) Common "date rape" drugs. (7)
 - b) The physical risks and complications of intravenous and subcutaneous injections in recreational drug users. (8)[15]
- 5 A pregnant 11-year-old girl presents to a health care facility requesting a termination of pregnancy
 - a) Write short notes on your role and legal obligations (with reference to relevant South African legislation) in the management of this case. (10)
 - b) Would your management of the case be different if this female child was 14-years-old and impregnated by her 16-year-old boyfriend? Briefly explain why. (5)
 - c) What is the legal age of consent for access to contraception in South Africa? (2)
 - d) What is the legal age of consent for surgical procedures in South Africa? (3)[20]



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Paper 2

(3 hours)

All questions are to be answered. Each question to be answered in a separate book (or books if more than one is required for the one answer)

- 1 A survivor of alleged torture is brought to you for a medico-legal examination. Write short notes on the following
 - c) The definition of torture. (3)
 - d) The typical injuries and/or injury patterns to look for in such cases. (12)
 - e) Your approach to the clinical examination and special investigations in this case. (10)[25]

- 2 Write short notes on the absorption, distribution, metabolism and elimination of ethyl alcohol from the human body. [15]

- 3 A 3-year-old female child is brought to a health care facility by her mother who reports that she noticed some blood on the child's underwear when she wanted to bath the child earlier that evening. The child goes to crèche every day until 4pm and is always transported home by a male driver
 - d) Briefly explain your further management of this case as the attending health care practitioner. (15)
 - e) Write short notes on the differential diagnosis of acute vulvovaginitis in a prepubertal child. (5)
 - f) Briefly describe normal hymenal variants. (5)[25]

- 4 In reference to the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act, 2007 (Act No. 32 of 2007), write short notes on the following
 - a) The definition of a mentally disabled person. (5)
 - b) The provisions for the compulsory HIV testing of alleged sex offenders. (10)[15]

- 5 Write short notes on
 - a) The differences between lacerations and incised wounds, with specific reference to mechanisms of causation, macroscopic appearances and complications. (8)
 - b) The medico-legal significance of bruises in an assault survivor. (7)
 - c) The various forms of elder abuse. (5)[20]