



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

11 July 2019



Paper 1

(3 hours)

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

- 1 Describe your approach to the wholistic management of an adult female who was allegedly raped, with specific reference to:
 - a) History taking. (5)
 - b) Physical examination. (8)
 - c) Evidence/Specimen collection. (7)
 - d) Treatment and follow-up. (5)[25]

- 2 Regarding age estimation:
 - a) Briefly describe the situations in which a clinical forensic medical practitioner may be called upon to estimate age. (5)
 - b) Write short notes on how you would estimate the age of a person accused of a criminal offence who alleges that he is 15-years-old whereas the prosecuting authority believes that he is an adult. (10)[15]

- 3 Write short notes on the following:
 - a) 'Neglect' as a form of child abuse. (5)
 - b) Restraint injuries in detainees or arrested persons. (10)[15]

- 4 You are approached by the principal of a local secondary school to confirm suspected cannabis use in a 15-year-old learner. The learner is slightly aggressive and not co-operative. He also smells of alcohol and has slurred speech. Discuss your approach to this request, including the relevant statutory, medico-legal and diagnostic considerations. [15]

- 5 Write short notes on the following:
 - a) The characteristics of self-inflicted knife wounds. (5)
 - b) Colour changes in a bruise. (5)
 - c) Atypical gunshot entrance wounds. (5)[15]

- 6 Write short notes on the following:
 - a) Scientific and non-scientific methods of human identification. (5)
 - b) Form SAP 308(a). (5)
 - c) The role of radiology in clinical forensic medicine. (5)[15]

TOTAL MARKS: 100



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

12 July 2019



Paper 2

(3 hours)

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

- 1 Regarding Tanner Staging:
 - a) Explain the concept of Tanner Staging. (5)
 - b) Write short notes on the relevance of Tanner Staging with specific reference to the examination of rape survivors. (5)
 - c) Discuss how Tanner Staging may (or may not) influence the presence or absence of genital injuries in female rape survivors. (15)[25]

- 2 Regarding drunken driving:
 - a) Is it possible for an alleged drunken driver to be within the prescribed legal limit for alcohol, but still be found unfit to drive? Explain your answer. (5)
 - b) How does the clinical/medical evaluation relate to the 'main' charge and 'alternate' charge? (2)
 - c) What is the evidentiary value of the clinical/medical examination? (3)
 - d) List the differential diagnosis for alcohol intoxication. (5)[15]

- 3 Regarding elder abuse:
 - a) Define 'elder' in the South African legal context. (3)
 - b) List 6 types of elder abuse. (3)
 - c) What are the duties and obligations of the attending medical practitioner in a case of suspected elder abuse? (3)
 - d) Briefly explain why abused elders may 'choose' to not report the abuse. (6)[15]

- 4 Write short notes on the following:
 - a) Patterned blunt force injuries. (5)
 - b) Descriptive factors for the medico-legal documentation of wounds. (5)
 - c) Classification of burn wounds according to depth. (5)[15]

5 Write short notes on the following:

- a) The professional duties and statutory obligations of a medical practitioner in a case of alleged or suspected child abuse. (8)
 - b) The typical findings and patterns of injury that may be encountered in a case of child physical abuse. (7)
- [15]

6 Write short notes on the following:

- a) Chain of custody of evidence. (5)
 - b) Photo-documentation in medico-legal examinations. (5)
 - c) The role of DNA in clinical forensic medicine. (5)
- [15]

TOTAL MARKS: 100