

CORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA CHORCAÍ

Semester 1 Examinations 2009/010

Module Title: Professional Ethics & Risk Management

Module Code: EDUC8003

School: School of Science

Programme Title: Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Herbal Science

Programme Code: SHERB_8_Y4

External Examiner(s): Dr. D. Clare, Prof. E. Williamson
Internal Examiner(s): Mr. E. Fitzgerald
Ms. A. Keaveney

Instructions: Answer 4 Questions, ONE from each Section and ONE other;
Each question carries equal marks

Duration: 2 hours

Sitting: Winter 2009

Requirements for this examination:

Note to Candidates: Please check the Programme Title and the Module Title to ensure that you have received the correct examination paper.
If in doubt please contact an Invigilator.

Section A

- Q1. Describe the reasons why a healthcare professional might fail to adequately care for a client. Discuss the different possible root causes of such failures and how a failure due to unethical behaviour might be avoided.
- Q2. “Ethical values are deeply personal to each individual and therefore ethical guidelines should never be imposed on members of a professional body”. Discuss.
- Q3. Discuss the ethical issues surrounding the need to keep a complementary healthcare practice financially viable without excessively treating clients of the practice.

Section B

- Q4. Critically discuss how the various proposed theories of bioethics may affect the ethical analysis of a specific case.
- Q5. A patient (35 years of age) presents with an acute chest infection, for which she would like treatment. She has a history of recurrent chest infections for which she has received antibiotics from her GP. Her mother and aunt also have a history of recurrent chest infections and have recently been diagnosed with emphysema (emphysema can occur in families and in people with recurrent chest infections). She is not on any medications and is otherwise healthy.

In relation to your practice

you only are available to see patients once a week so can not be there if the patient needs to see you urgently. Her herbal prescription has to be posted out as your dispensary is not near your clinic. You could however, ask someone else to make up a prescription if she really needed it.

Discuss the ethical considerations in this case.

Section C

- Q6. Critically evaluate the ethical issues raised in relation to biomedical research and debate the relevance of these issues to research on herbal medicine
- Q7. You have been asked to prepare your part of a proposal for a research application which will need to be presented to an ethics board for clearance. This is a clinical trial involving patients and patient information plus herbs and other medication. A doctor and nurse will also be working on this application and involved in this research.
- In this proposal you are required to outline the ethical issues that you consider could arise from this research, in particular, ethical issues in relation to your participation and the use of herbs and other medication.