

**CORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA CHORCAÍ**

Semester 1 Examinations 2011/12

Module Title: Professional ethics and Risk Management

Module Code: EDUC8003

School: Science

Programme Title: B.Sc. (Honours) in Herbal Science

Programme Code: SHERB_8_Y4

External Examiner(s): Dr. J. Green

**Internal Examiner(s): Ms AM. Keaveney
Mr E. Fitzgerald**

Instructions:

Answer one question from section A, one question from section B and one question from section C

Duration: 2 hours

Sitting: December 2011

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 (30 marks)

1. The dynamics and working practices of many herbal practitioners means that therapeutic encounters are rarely supervised and no one looks over the practitioner's shoulder. This places the responsibility to act ethically squarely with the individual practitioner.

Taking Beauchamp's principles critically discuss the ethical issues that accrue from this form of practice in terms of both the individual practitioner and their professional body.

2. David is a 17-year-old high-school athlete who has moderate, persistent asthma. He has an asthma action plan, has done a good job addressing allergic triggers, and takes good care of himself. David has attended your clinic for a number of months and is responding well to the herbal medicine. However, at his last visit he admitted that he has not been using his steroid inhaler consistently since he started taking the herbal remedies.

Critically discuss the ethical considerations in this case?

Section B (30 marks)

1. Every therapy needs to have a sound theory underpinning it. Without it, a therapy cannot grow and mature. Research may extend and improve the knowledge base for a given therapy but not all practitioners are willing or able to participate in useful, well designed research

In light of the above statement critically evaluate the ethical issues raised in relation to conducting research on herbal medicine including the role of the practitioner in research

2. You have to complete an application to an ethics committee for some clinical research you are involved in. The research is concerned to explore practitioner practice in its totality including individualised prescribing, diet and lifestyle.

Critically discuss the ethical issues you would need to address in the application.

Section C (40 marks)

1. Discuss the inter-relationships between conscience, ethics and morality in the context of working decisions to be taken by a complementary therapist.
2. "A binding code of ethics is an essential prerequisite for any association of healthcare practitioners" Discuss.