

**UNIVERSITY OF JAFFNA, SRI LANKA**  
**SECOND EXAMINATION FOR MEDICAL DEGREES—AUG 2013**  
**FORENSIC MEDICINE**

Date: 26.08.2013.

Time: 3 hours

ANSWER ALL THE FIVE QUESTIONS

Answer each part in separate answer book

**PART A**

1. The fresh body of a young adult male was found inside a room. There was disturbance of the furniture. At postmortem examination there were small oval contusions and crescent shaped scratch abrasions of the front of neck. Petechial haemorrhages were detected in the periorbital area
- 1.1. Describe the steps in the dissection that should be performed to determine the cause of death. (40 Marks)
- 1.2. Write the possible cause of death in this case. (10 Marks)
- 1.3. Explain the mechanism of formation of petechial haemorrhages. (20 Marks)
- 1.4. Write two(02) more areas of the body where petechial haemorrhages may be detected (20 Marks)
- 1.5. State two other findings that could support your diagnosis mentioned in 1.2. (10 Marks)

**Part B**

2. The Police have recovered a fresh dead body of a young, male in an abandoned house. There was a firmly held 2 ml syringe in his right hand. A small empty bottle and partially burnt cigarette butts were found at the scene. This death was reported to the judicial medical officer by the Police.
- 2.1. List five medico-legal issues related to this case. (10 Marks)
- 2.2. Describe the possible external examination findings of the deceased. (25 Marks)
- 2.3. Describe the pathophysiology of the internal findings expected at the autopsy. (25 Marks)
- 2.4. Discuss the special investigations that you would request in this case. (20 Marks)
- 2.5. Describe the special precautions you would adopt when performing the autopsy of this case. (20 Marks)

3. A 35years old executive officer employed in a private company sustained severe chest injuries following frontal collision of his car with a motor truck during an official journey. He was admitted to a tertiary care hospital and several blood transfusions were given during the early stage of the management. The truck driver had minor injuries and was said to have been under the influence of alcohol at the time of the incident.

- 3.1. What are the medico-legal issues of this case? ( 10 Marks)
- 3.2. Describe the expected medico-legal examination findings of the hospitalized victim with a view to assess him for compensation. ( 30 Marks)
- 3.3. Discuss the ethical principles involved in the medico-legal examination and the further management of this victim? ( 20 Marks)
- 3.4. Describe how you would examine a person for alleged drunkenness. (25 Marks)
- 3.5. Discuss the legal provisions related to drunken driving in Sri Lanka. (15 Marks)

### Part C

4. A young person was admitted to the casualty ward with the laceration on the right side of the head and history of loss of consciousness for a few minutes following the injury. On admission he was conscious and rational, wound was sutured and the patient was discharged from the hospital on the same day. The following day he was brought to the hospital in a state of unconsciousness and died soon after admission to the hospital.

- 4.1. What is your most probable diagnosis? ( 10 Marks)
- 4.2. If you were the Medical officer who attended the patient on the first admission, how you would have managed this patient? (40 Marks)
- 4.3. What are the post-mortem findings (head only) you expect in this case? ( 50 Marks)

5. If a patient under your care died.

- 5.1. How will you decide whether to order an inquest or not. ( 50 Marks)
- 5.2. If you are decided to do a pathological postmortem examination, what are the preconditions to be fulfilled? (25 Marks)
- 5.3. If you are decided to issue the death declaration form, how will you write a proper cause of death? Explain by giving an example. (25 Marks)