



UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
Department of Environmental Health Science

DEGREE IN WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH MANAGEMENT

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER MAY 2017**

TITTLE OF PAPER : INTERNATIONAL HEALTH  
REGULATIONS

COURSE CODE : EHM 310

DURATION : 2 HOURS

MARKS : 100

INSTRUCTIONS : ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS  
: EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS  
: WRITE NEATLY  
: NO PAPER SHOULD BE BROUGHT  
INTO THE EXAMINATION ROOM  
: BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A  
SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER

**DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION IS GRANTED  
BY THE INVIGILATOR**

**Question 1**

- a) Briefly explain the purpose of the International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005) ( 5 marks)
- b) What were the key limitations of the 1969 International Health Regulations? ( 5 marks)
- c) What are the International Health Regulations core public health capacities (8 marks)
- d) In which month did the IHR (2005) enter into force (2 marks)
- e) How does the IHR (2005) affect international travel and trade? (5 marks)

**Total - (25 marks)**

**Question 2**

- a) What is meant by the National Focal Point, and what are the functions of the National IHR Focal Point? (6 marks)
- b) What is meant by a potential Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)? (4 marks)
- c) What are the four (4) decision criteria that are used to assess Public Health Events? (4 marks)
- d) When are countries expected to notify WHO of a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)? (2 marks)
- e) List four (4) diseases that always need to be reported to WHO.(4 marks)
- f) Discuss the requirements for vaccination against yellow fever for a traveller as a condition of entry. (5 marks)

**Total - (25 marks)**

**Question 3**

- a) Tabulate any ten (10) subject areas affected by IHR 2005 implementation (10 marks)
- b) What are the key public health functions at the points of entry? (10 marks)

- c) Article 40 of the IHR state that countries are not to charge travellers for health measures for the protection of public health. Explain these health measures (5 marks)

**Total - (25 marks)**

#### **Question 4**

##### **A. Case Scenario – Toxic chemical spill**

Benzene is a known human carcinogen. Following an industrial accident in City D, 100 tons of benzene have spilt into a major river. This is the first time this type of accident has occurred in this area. The river is a main source of drinking water for both City D and three other major cities in a neighbouring country downstream of the river. Benzene is a known human carcinogen. Authorities in city D have shut off drinking water supplies to residents in response and alternative water resources are being mobilized. However, decontamination efforts have been limited due to a lack of equipment and expertise.

By applying annex 2 of the International Health Regulations (2005), answer the following questions, showing your reasons in eachcase.

- i. Is the public health impact of this event serious? (5 marks)
  - ii. Is the even unusual or unexpected? (5 marks)
  - iii. Is there a significant risk of transboundary spread of the contaminant? (5 marks)
  - iv. Is there a significant risk on international trade or travel restriction? (5 marks)
- B. Article 44 of the IHR 2005 Regulations relates to collaboration and assistance. Briefly discuss the issues of collaboration among countries. (5 marks)

(Total = 25 marks)