

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY 2017**

**TITLE : ETHICAL ISSUES, DILEMMAS AND PROFESSIONAL  
PRACTICE IN MENTAL HEALTH NURSING**

**COURSE : NUR 451**

**DURATION : TWO (2) HOURS**

**MARKS : 75**

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS**
  - 2. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS**
  - 3. NO PAPER SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO NOR  
OUT OF THE EXAMINATION ROOM**
  - 4. BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A SEPARATE SHEET  
OF PAPER**

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

**Question 1**

“Informed consent” is considered the cornerstone of modern-day health care practice. Discuss the ethical principles enshrined in obtaining “informed consent” (25)

**TOTAL 25**

**Question 2**

Approaches in the management of psychiatric conditions have received criticism from some ethicists. Highlight some of the criticisms that have been leveled on each of the following:

- a) Habilitation of those living with intellectual disability (9)
- b) Child psychiatry (9)
- c) Psychotherapy in the positivist approach (7)

**TOTAL 25**

**Question 3**

Children in one family whose religious beliefs do not allow taking children to hospital or taking any medication had an outbreak of measles and two of them died from complications. Efforts by nurses in that area to convince the family to bring the remaining children for treatment proved futile. The government ministry responsible for child welfare was alerted and the children were forcefully taken from their parents to the nearest health centre where they were admitted, treated and later discharged.

- a) What ethical issues are inherent in this scenario? (5)
- b) Write a critique of the parents' behaviour and that of the government officials who took the children for treatment. (20)

**TOTAL 25**