### UNIVERSITY OF WALES COLLEGE OF MEDICINE MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH WEDNESDAY, 14TH MAY 1997: 10 - 1

### PAPER 1A

### PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY

You should answer **FOUR** questions

One from Section A: Determinants of Health

One from Section B: Health Economics

Two from Section C: Health Policy, Planning and Management

Each question will be marked out of 25.

Credit will be given for evidence of critical thinking and for answers which are illustrated by reference to the literature and, where relevant, to your own experience.

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH QUESTION

### **Section A: Determinants of Health**

### Answer **One** Question

- 1. Discuss the proposal that public health is influenced more by political and economic factors than technical considerations. Illustrate your answer with reference to specific examples.
- 2. Discuss the role of equity in Primary Health Care in a country of your own choice.
- 3. Discuss why socio-economic inequalities in health are usually smaller among women than men.

### **Section B: Health Economics**

### Answer **One** Question

- 4. What are the main difficulties associated with using 'need' as a means of distributing health care services? Why can't the NHS (or any other health care system) meet all health needs?
- 5. Which technique of economic appraisal would be used to answer the question "Should an existing programme of screening for breast cancer be expanded to include also younger women?" Produce an outline appraisal.

# **Section C: Health Policy, Planning and Management** Answer **Two** Questions

6. Select **one** of the following topics. For the selected topic, discuss the points which you think should be considered in each of the analytical frameworks (epidemiology, law, economics, ethics and political science) used for policy analysis and formation for that issue:

Alcohol related injuries Mandatory seatbelt laws Support for mammography screening Restricted access to plastic surgery

- 7. Discuss "evidence based policy making" and give an example of its application in a current public health issue of your choosing.
- 8. Policy making in the public health arena should involve making changes across several sectors, education, health, welfare, etc. Give an example of such policy making and discuss the problems involved in achieving intersectoral collaboration. Suggest solutions for such problems.
- 9. How have the NHS reforms affected the role of public health and have attendant changes been for the better?

### UNIVERSITY OF WALES COLLEGE OF MEDICINE MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH WEDNESDAY, 21ST MAY 1997: 10 - 1

## Paper 1C

# **EPIDEMIOLOGY**

(including demography, research methods, and public health and environmental issues)

You should answer FOUR questions
TWO from Section A:
ONE from Section B:
ONE from Section C:
Credit will be given for evidence of critical thinking and for answers which are illustrated by reference to the literature and, where relevant, to your own experience.
PLEASE USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH OUESTION

#### **Section A:**

### **Answer TWO questions**

1. Define the following terms and illustrate how they have been used in public health.

incidence prevalence rate ratio perinatal mortality rate Standardised Mortality Ratio (SMR)

- 2. Outline the usefulness of studies of variation of disease frequency in place, time and person.
- 3. How would you design a surveillance system for newly emerging zoonoses? How would you measure its success?
- 4. How might you categorise the strength of evidence of effectiveness of a medical procedure. Give examples.

### **SECTION B:**

### **Answer ONE question**

- 5. Design a study to examine reasons for failure to use appropriate technical knowledge in emergency/relief situations.
- 6. Discuss the ethical issues to be addressed in undertaking a study to examine the link between BSE and the new variant CJD.
- 7. Discuss the relative contributions of quantitative and qualitative research methods for identifying a feasible intervention to reduce exposure to any one environmental hazard of your choice.

#### **SECTION C:**

### **Answer ONE question**

- 8. a. Define Crude Birth rate (CBR), Crude Death Rate (CDR) and Annual Growth Rate (AGR). Discuss the limitations of these measures in demography especially when comparing different countries.
  - b. If CBR = 50 and CDR = 15 calculate the AGR assuming migration is zero. Calculate the doubling time of this population.
  - c. Briefly explain the demographic transition theory with notes accompanied by a rough sketch illustrating the theoretical changes in CBR and CDR over time.

