

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For the following qualifications :-

M. Res.

M.Res. Health Services Research & Policy: Research Methods

COURSE CODE : **HSRP0001**

DATE : **05-JUN-02**

TIME : **10.00**

TIME ALLOWED : **3 hours**

02-N0148-3-30

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TURN OVER

Paper I. Health services research methods (HSRP0001) and health economics (HSRP0005)

Answer FOUR questions only: Three questions from Section I
and
One question from Section II

Use a separate answer book for each question

WHERE APPROPRIATE, REFERENCE CAN BE MADE TO THE SERVICE AND CONDITIONS OF ANY NAMED COUNTRY WITH WHICH THE CANDIDATE IS FAMILIAR

Please write legibly

Section I (Answer three questions only)

1. What types of bias need to be considered when designing a questionnaire and what are the techniques used to reduce these? 50 marks
2. How can patients' preferences for treatment be measured? Describe the difficulties of designing accurate measures of preferences. 50 marks
3. What is health services research? What are the advantages and disadvantages of the main types of research design used in the evaluation of health services? 50 marks
4. Compare and contrast the advantages and disadvantages of face-to-face survey interviews with self administered questionnaires. 50 marks
5. Compare and contrast the types of retrospective and prospective survey design. What potential problems does the researcher need to be aware of in relation to each design? 50 marks
6. What is restricted random allocation for ensuring balance in clinical trials? Describe the range of methods used and their limitations. 50 marks

Section II (Answer one question only)

1. Indicate how you would evaluate the clinical and cost effectiveness of pegylated alpha interferon (with or without ribavirin) compared with current treatment guidance for hepatitis C. 50 marks

2. Why is the market for health care different from the market for potatoes? Justify your arguments. 50 marks

3. In what circumstances are decision models needed in health technology assessment? 50 marks

END OF PAPER