



# MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 972-60200 – Meru-Kenya.

Tel: +254 (0)799529958, +254 (0)799529959, +254 (0)712524293

Website: [www.must.ac.ke](http://www.must.ac.ke) Email: [info@must.ac.ke](mailto:info@must.ac.ke)

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University Examinations 2024/2025

FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF  
PHILOSOPHY IN PUBLIC HEALTH

**HPP 8114: EMERGING TRENDS IN PUBLIC HEALTH**

**DATE: JANUARY 2025**

**TIME: 3 HOURS**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Answer all Questions in Question one and any other two Questions

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**QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Explain two (2) implications of an aging population in the health care system (4 Marks)
- b) State two (2) environmental health interventions used as public health responses to urbanization challenges (4 Marks)
- c) Mention two (2) public health interventions used control trans boundary diseases (2 marks)
- d) List down the six (6) components of health believe model used to predict health related behaviours (3 Marks)
- e) Explain two (2) functions of the public health officers and technicians' council (4 Marks)
- f) Name three (3) social determinants of health (3 Marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) County X is experiencing a steady increase in its aging population. As a public health officer, propose and discuss effective public health strategies used to address the unique needs of this demographic change (20 Marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

As the County Chief executive committee for public health in County X, discuss how you use (the following strategies to minimize the risk of infectious diseases outbreak



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ISO/IEC 27001:2013 CERTIFIED

Page 1

- i. Strengthening Disease Surveillance Systems (5 Marks)
- ii. Enhancing Public Health Infrastructure (5 Marks)
- iii. Community Engagement and Education (5 Marks)
- iv. Preventive measures and immunization Programs (5 Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

As a public health specialist, you are tasked with advising a county government on managing emerging environmental and occupational health challenges in their rapidly urbanizing region. Propose strategies you would use to address the following areas:

- a) Occupational safety and health initiatives (5 Marks)
- b) Environmental health management (5 Marks)
- c) Community-level preventive strategies to communicable diseases (5 Marks)
- d) Policy recommendations for enhancing primary health care (PHC) services (5 Marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

Analyze a scenario where a public health officer encounters ethical and legal challenges while implementing a community vaccination program in a low-income rural area.

- a) Identify the possible ethical and legal challenges arising from the scenario (4 Marks)
- b) Explain two (2) legal frameworks that would influence the officer's actions (4 Marks)
- c) State three (3) ethical theories that could guide their decision making process (6 Marks)
- d) Discuss the role of professional associations in shaping ethical public health practices (6 Marks)

