

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS IN NURSING
NGU6305- PALLIATIVE CARE NURSING – LEVEL 6
FINAL EXAMINATION

Date: 28th March 2023

Time: 1.30 pm- 4.30 pm

Duration: 03 hours

NIC No.

Index No.

Part B – Short Answer Questions (40 marks)

Question 01

Artificial hydration is one of most significant intervention implemented when providing palliative care.

- 1.1 State **four (04)** possible benefits of dehydration in terminally ill patients. (04 Marks)
- 1.2 List **three (03)** possible disadvantages of artificial hydration in terminally ill patients. (03 Marks)
- 1.3 ‘You have to do *something*’ is never a justification for artificial hydration. Then, in which situation would be ethical to start artificial hydration for a terminally ill patient? (02 Marks)

Question 02

Pain is one of the most common distressing symptoms among palliative care patients. Therefore, palliative care nurses should be aware of proper management of pain.

- 2.1 List **two (02)** courses of pain can be identified among palliative care patients. (02 Marks)
- 2.2 List **two (02)** types of pain. (02 Marks)
- 2.3 State an aggravating factor of the pain among terminally ill patients. (01 Mark)
- 2.4 State the pain scale that can be used to estimate pain among patients with cognitive impairment or dementia. (01 Mark)
- 2.5 There are six observations associated with the above pain scale. List **four (04)** observations out of the six. (04 Marks)

Question 03

Adjuvant analgesics are commonly used when treating palliative care patients.

- 3.1 State the term of adjuvant analgesics. (02 Marks)
- 3.2 State **two (02)** types of drugs that can be used as adjuvant analgesics except for corticosteroids. (02 Marks)
- 3.3 List **three (03)** adverse effects of corticosteroids. (03 Marks)

Question 04

People with life-threatening illnesses are more likely to experience psychological problems. Palliative care nurses should be knowledgeable and skilful in identifying patients' psychological problems and their management.

4.1 List **two (02)** examples of psychological distress. **(02 Marks)**

4.2 State **two (02)** factors related to the patient which are predisposing to psychological distress among palliative care patients. **(02 Marks)**

4.3 List **two (02)** psychological symptoms that can be identified as **indicators** of depression in terminally ill patients. **(02 Marks)**

4.4 'Religious faith can cause problems for the dying among patients who are suffering from life threatening illnesses like cancer'. Give **two (02)** reasons prove above statement. **(04 Marks)**

4.5 List **two (02)** actions that can be implemented in handling issues related to religious faith among palliative care patients. **(04 Marks)**

Part C- Structured Essay Questions (30 Marks)

01) Euthanasia was first used in a medical context by Francis Bacon in the 17th century. However, in Sri Lanka, euthanasia is still not legalized.

1.1 List **four (04)** reasons for requesting or advocating euthanasia. **(04 Marks)**

1.2 Briefly explain the risks associated with the legalization of euthanasia. **(06 Marks)**

1.3 Anxiety is a very common symptom that can be frequently observed among palliative care patients. Briefly explain the general measures that can be taken to relieve anxiety among palliative care patients. **(06 Marks)**

02). Acute confusion or delirium is an organic brain syndrome characterized by the acute onset of disturbance of the conscious state.

2.1 State **four (04)** clinical features of delirium. **(04 Marks)**

2.2 Briefly explain the general measures that can be taken when managing a patient with delirium. **(10 Marks)**

-End-