

CANDIDATE NUMBER.....



**AFRICA  
UNIVERSITY**  
*A United Methodist-Related Institution*

*"Investing in Africa's Future"*

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH, AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

**BACHELOR OF MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES HONOURS DEGREE**

**NSLS100: LABORATORY PRINCIPLES**

**END OF FIRST SEMESTER SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS**

**JUNE 2019**

**LECTURER: MR G. MALUNGA**

**DURATION: 3 HOURS**

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***INSTRUCTIONS***

Write your candidate number on the space provided on top of each page

Answer **all** questions in sections A on the question paper.

Answer **all** questions in section B on separate answer sheets provided.

Answer any **3** questions in section C on separate answer sheets provided

The mark allocation for each question is indicated at the end of the question

Credit will be given for logical, systematic and neat presentations in sections B and C

**SECTION A : MULTIPLE CHOICE [ 40MARKS ]**

- **Answer all questions by encircling the correct response T for TRUE or F for FALSE for each statement in all the questions**
- **Each correct response is allocated half mark**

1. Screening tests

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | a) are an important part of preventative health care |
| T | F | b) must be more sensitive than diagnostic tests      |
| T | F | c) must always be confirmed with diagnostic tests    |
| T | F | d) are used to detect subclinical diseases           |

2.



**Fig 1**

The symbol shown in Fig 1 can be found on containers of the following substances

- |   |   |                        |
|---|---|------------------------|
| T | F | a) Phenol              |
| T | F | b) Sodium hypochlorite |
| T | F | c) Sodium hydroxide    |
| T | F | d) Hydrochloric acid   |
3. First aid is meant to
- |   |   |                        |
|---|---|------------------------|
| T | F | a) treat the victim    |
| T | F | b) save life           |
| T | F | c) promote recovery    |
| T | F | d) diagnose the victim |
4. According to Standard 5 (Testing) of the code of ethics, all Medical laboratory scientists shall
- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | a) not fabricate patient results                         |
| T | F | b) ensure the accuracy of patient results                |
| T | F | c) follow institutional protocol for specimen collection |
| T | F | d) implement ISO15189 standards                          |

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5. A chemical spill response center must have the following  
T F a) goggles  
T F b) rubber apron  
T F c) vacutainer needles  
T F d) alcohol swabs
6. The following is true about laboratory disinfectants  
T F a) 1% NaClO can be used to disinfect a chemistry analyzer  
T F b) 0.1% NaClO can be used to disinfect a urine sample spillage  
T F c) 70% alcohol can be used to disinfect skin  
T F d) 70% alcohol can be prepared from a 50% alcohol solution.
7. Management of HIV Post Exposure Prophylaxis in a health care worker involves  
T F a) offering first aid to the health care worker  
T F b) counselling the patient who supplied the blood sample  
T F c) initiating the exposed healthcare worker on ARVs  
T F d) testing the exposed health care worker for Hepatitis B.
8. The following are common blood sample preservatives  
T F a) EDTA  
T F b) Heparin  
T F c) Oxalate  
T F d) Boric acid
9. Medical microbiology specimens  
T F a) must never be refrigerated  
T F b) can be collected by the patient on his/her own.  
T F c) for parasitology must always be preserved with 10% formalin  
T F d) can still be collected even after commencing the patient on antibiotic treatment
10. Which performance characteristic must be considered when purchasing an equipment  
T F a) Accuracy  
T F b) Precision  
T F c) Sensitivity  
T F d) Specificity
11. The following documents are crucial for a chemistry analyzer  
T F a) Daily maintenance chart  
T F b) Service records  
T F c) Levey-Jennings Chart  
T F d) Temperature Chart
12. The iris diaphragm on a microscope

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- |  |   |   |                                     |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|
|  | T | F | a) controls contrast                |
|  | T | F | b) controls light aperture          |
|  | T | F | c) is also called a field diaphragm |
|  | T | F | d) scatters light from the bulb     |
13. Micropipettes can be decontaminated by
- |  |   |   |                           |
|--|---|---|---------------------------|
|  | T | F | a) UV radiation           |
|  | T | F | b) 10% Formaldehyde       |
|  | T | F | c) Ethylene oxide         |
|  | T | F | d) 1% Sodium hypochlorite |
14. During centrifugation of a sample, separation of particles is affected by
- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
|  | T | F | a) particle shape  |
|  | T | F | b) volume of sample  |
|  | T | F | c) differences between density of particles and the liquid |
|  | T | F | d) type of centrifuge                                      |
15. A spectrophotometer
- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
|  | T | F | a) measures transmittance of light through coloured substances |
|  | T | F | b) uses wavelength of light within the visible range only      |
|  | T | F | c) is similar to a flame photometer                            |
|  | T | F | d) must never be used without blanking                         |
16. The following is true about balances
- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
|  | T | F | a) Never place a hot object on a balance pan                   |
|  | T | F | b) Balances can be used to calibrate volumetric equipment      |
|  | T | F | c) A top loading pan must not be used in a clinical laboratory |
|  | T | F | d) Taring must always be used on a balance                     |
17. The following variables affect quality of results in a clinical laboratory
- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
|  | T | F | a) reporting of results                             |
|  | T | F | b) quantity of specimen                             |
|  | T | F | c) interpretation of results                        |
|  | T | F | d) education background of the laboratory scientist |
18. The following must be always available on a workbench
- |  |   |   |                              |
|--|---|---|------------------------------|
|  | T | F | a) SOPs                      |
|  | T | F | b) Equipment owner's manual  |
|  | T | F | c) Clinician contact numbers |
|  | T | F | d) Personnel files           |

19. The following are examples of laboratory records

T F a) Laboratory worksheets

T F b) Equipment service reports

T F c) Personnel evaluation reports

T F d) Delivery Notes

20. Good laboratory practice involves

T F a) Stock management

T F b) Proficiency testing

T F c) Continuous professional development

T F d) Customer surveys

### **SECTION B: [20 MARKS]**

**Answer all questions on separate answer sheets provided**

1. Why are ethics critical in the medical laboratory field? [5]
2. The following table shows blood glucose levels of a diabetic patient measured on consecutive days during one week.

**Table 1: Blood glucose levels of a diabetic patient**

	Day	[Glucose]mmol/l	
(a). Glucose patient week (b).	1	15.6	Calculate the mean concentration for the during the one period. [2] Calculate the standard deviation. [3]
	2	14.7	
	3	14.9	
	4	13.4	
	5	14.7	
	6	15.6	
	7	16.3	

3. State any 5 consequences of a poor laboratory equipment maintenance program. [5]

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- 4.** What is the value of documentation in a clinical laboratory? [5]

**SECTION C : [75 marks]**

**Answer any 3 questions from this section on separate answer sheets provided**

- 1.** Discuss the finger prick procedure. [25]
- 2.** Describe the packaging of a highly infectious sample which is about to be referred to a central medical laboratory for processing. [25]
- 3.** If you were a laboratory manager of an international medical laboratory, explain how you would acquire a good hematology analyzer and maintain it in good working condition. [25]
- 4.** Discuss quality assurance in a clinical laboratory. [25]
- 5.** Explain the role of a clinical laboratory in the medical field. [25]