BIOLOGICAL AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
HISTORY AND ETHICS OF MEDICINE (45)

Before you begin read these instructions carefully:

Answer four question; at least one from each section.
All questions carry equal weight

Begin each answer on a separate sheet.

Write legibly and on only one side of the paper.

Answers must be tied up in separate bundles, marked 1, 2, 3, etc. according to the number of the question.

Attach a completed coversheet to each bundle and complete a master coversheet listing all questions attempted. It is essential that you write your examination number and not your name on the coversheet and on each bundle.

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed that you may do so by the Invigilator.
History and Ethics of Medicine

SECTION A

1. What was the most important medical discovery made between 1500 and 1700? Justify your answer.

2. Were physicians powerless in the face of plague?

3. Explain why laboratories became part of (a) medical training and (b) medical practice after 1800.

4. Has the concept of a “consumer” (or a “sickman”) rather than a “patient” helped give lay groups power over medical professionals?

5. How and why did drugs come to play such an important part in the history of psychiatry?

6. “The use of involuntary confinement, sanctioned and funded by the State, is what makes psychiatry distinctive as a branch of medicine.” Discuss.

SECTION B

7. Should consent to treatment always be fully informed?

8. If we can show that foetuses and embryos have a “right to life”, do we thereby show that abortion is unjustified?

9. What ethical challenges does the non-identity problem raise in reproductive scenarios? How should these challenges be met?

10. “Health and disease are nothing more than evaluative judgments reached by a given community.” Discuss.

11. Should the distribution of scarce medical resources aim at maximising quality-adjusted life years (QALYs)?

12. Do scientists have an obligation to research diseases of the developing world?

END OF PAPER