Roll No.												

PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY

BENGALURU

End - Term Examinations – December 2025

Date: 17- 12- 2025 **Time:** 09:30am – 12:30pm

School: SOL	Program: B.A.LL. B/ BB.A.LLB/B.COM.LLB	
Course Code: LAW3027	**Course Name:** BIO ETHICS AND LAW	
Semester: IX	**Max Marks**: 100	**Weightage**: 50%

CO - Levels	**CO1**	**CO2**	**CO3**	**CO4**	**CO5**
Marks	**20**	**20**	**20**	**20**	**20**

Instructions:

(i) Read all questions carefully and answer accordingly.

(ii) Do not write anything on the question paper other than roll number.

Part A

Answer ALL the Questions. Each question carries 2marks. **10Q x 2M=20M**

1.	Mention two key ethical responsibilities of medical practitioners toward patients.	**2 Marks**	**L1**	**CO1**
2.	Define patient autonomy in the context of medical ethics.	**2 Marks**	**L1**	**CO1**
3.	What is the importance of confidentiality in patient care?	**2 Marks**	**L1**	**CO2**
4.	State any two responsibilities of a medical professional toward society.	**2 Marks**	**L1**	**CO2**
5.	What is the WMA International Code of Medical Ethics?	**2 Marks**	**L1**	**CO3**
6.	What does CIOMS stand for, and what is its role?	**2 Marks**	**L1**	**CO3**
7.	How does Article 19 relate to medical decision-making and patient consent?	**2 Marks**	**L1**	**CO4**
8.	Define “patient autonomy” in the context of the right to freedom of expression	**2 Marks**	**L1**	**CO4**
9.	What are the gestational limits for termination of pregnancy under the MTP Act, 1971?	**2 Marks**	**L1**	**CO5**
10.	What is the purpose of the DNA Technology (Use and Regulation) Bill, 2019?	**2 Marks**	**L1**	**CO5**

Part B

Answer the Questions. **Total Marks 80M**

11.	**a.**	During a viral outbreak in Bengaluru, a private multi-specialty hospital—despite having 40% vacant bed capacity—refuses to admit patients from low-income groups. Internal emails later reveal that management directed staff to "prioritize high-value clients and corporate insurance holders." Several critical patients were turned away and died while waiting for treatment in government hospitals. Evaluate this action from the perspective of the social responsibilities of medical practitioners. How do principles of public health ethics, distributive justice, and state-imposed obligations during health emergencies apply here?	**10 Marks**	**L2**	**CO1**
		Or			
12.	**a.**	The Nuremberg Code (1947) laid the foundation for modern human research ethics after horrific wartime experimentation. Several contemporary controversies—including CRISPR babies (2018), placebo-controlled COVID-19 vaccine trials, and dual-use biological research—raise questions about its continuing relevance. Identify and analyze the ten principles of the Nuremberg Code, with special emphasis on voluntary informed consent, scientifically justified risk-benefit assessment, and the avoidance of unnecessary physical and mental suffering in human experimentation. Discuss their application to modern biomedical controversies.	**10 Marks**	**L2**	**CO1**

13.	**a.**	The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), 1948, articulates fundamental rights that have shaped global health norms—from access to essential medicines to the right to dignity, privacy, and non-discrimination. Summarize the foundational principles of the UDHR and explain how these principles inform today's bioethical standards, including patients' rights, health equity, the right to health information, and state obligations during pandemics.	**10 Marks**	**L2**	**CO2**
		Or			
14.	**a.**	The Declaration of Geneva (1948), updated most recently in 2017, imposes moral duties on physicians such as placing patient welfare above all else, maintaining confidentiality, and refusing to participate in torture. Examine the ethical duties of physicians as reflected in the Declaration of Geneva and discuss their relevance to	**10 Marks**	**L2**	**CO2**

		contemporary dilemmas such as AI-based clinical decision-making, telemedicine, physician burnout, and medical neutrality during political conflicts.			

15.	**a.**	A patient sues a private hospital alleging medical negligence during a robotic surgery. The hospital charges a "technology usage fee," engages in misleading advertisements claiming "100% success rate," and refuses refund despite post-operative complications caused by faulty equipment. Discuss the legal remedies for medical negligence, unfair trade practices, and deficiency of service under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, and examine how consumer courts evaluate claims involving modern medical technologies.	**10 Marks**	**L2**	**CO3**
		Or			
16.	**a.**	India's Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021 and the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021 introduced restrictions on commercial surrogacy, gamete donation, embryo storage, and eligibility of commissioning parents. Discuss how these reforms attempt to balance individual reproductive autonomy with ethical limitations relating to exploitation, commodification of women's bodies, genetic parenthood disputes, and cross-border surrogacy markets.	**10 Marks**	**L2**	**CO3**

17.	**a.**	Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) approves field trials of Bt brinjal and GM mustard despite objections from environmental groups citing biodiversity risks, farmer dependency on seed corporations, and unknown long-term ecological effects. Evaluate the ethical, environmental, and legal implications of GEAC's role in approving genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in India, considering the Cartagena Protocol, the Biological Diversity Act, and the precautionary principle.	**15 Marks**	**L3**	**CO4**
		Or			
18.	**a.**	The National Medical Commission (NMC), under the NMC Act, 2019, has been vested with the power to regulate fees in private colleges, oversee exit exams, and enforce professional ethics through autonomous boards. Several controversies—such as NEET-PG delays, online-only medical courses proposals, and ethical breaches in clinical practice—have raised questions about its effectiveness. Discuss the mandate and regulatory powers of the National Medical Commission in maintaining standards of medical	**15 Marks**	**L3**	**CO4**

		education and professional ethics in India. Evaluate whether its current structure addresses past shortcomings of the MCI.			

19.	**a.**	ICMR's National Ethical Guidelines (2017, updated 2023) influence all biomedical research, including AI-based diagnostics, biobanking, stem cell trials, and COVID-19 vaccine testing. Critically assess how the ICMR's ethical guidelines shape clinical trials, biomedical innovation, vulnerable population protection, and patient safety in India. Provide examples of how these guidelines were applied during the COVID-19 pandemic and gene-editing research.	**15 Marks**	**L3**	**CO5**
		Or			
20.	**a.**	UNESCO's International Bioethics Committee (IBC) issues global opinions on genome editing, neurotechnology, AI in healthcare, and human dignity. Analyze the role and functions of the UNESCO International Bioethics Committee in promoting ethical, legal, and social reflection on biotechnology. Discuss how its soft-law recommendations influence national laws, including India's DNA Technology Bill and Human Genome Research regulation.	**15 Marks**	**L3**	**CO5**

21.	**a.**	The four Geneva Conventions (1949) govern humanitarian protections during armed conflict**.** Outline the main protections under all four Geneva Conventions, with a focus on civilians, the wounded and sick, medical personnel, and prisoners of war. Incorporate examples from recent conflicts such as Ukraine, Gaza, and Syria to illustrate real-world violations and enforcement challenges.	**20 Marks**	**L4**	**CO5**
		Or			
22.	**a.**	WHO's ethical guidance influences pandemic responses, vaccine allocation frameworks, public health surveillance, and clinical trials worldwide. Discuss the core public health ethics principles promoted by WHO—including beneficence, justice, autonomy, precaution, and proportionality—and analyze their application in global health crises such as COVID-19, Ebola outbreaks, and emerging AI-driven health technologies.	**20 Marks**	**L4**	**CO5**