



**RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES, MIHINTALE**

**B.Sc. (General) Degree in Health Promotion  
First Year – Semester II Examination – March/April, 2014**

**HPT 1110 - RESEARCH METHODS**

**Time: 1 ½ hours**

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**Answer all three (03) questions**

**Illustrate your answers with labeled diagrams where appropriate.**

1. a) Draft **a research question** and **a research aim** for each of the following scenarios.
  - i. Some observers have stated that mental health problems are common in rural communities in Sri Lanka. But most frequently seen mental health problem is not known yet.
  - ii. In Sri Lanka, there are mechanisms such as counseling and legal services to support victims of gender based violence. Some health care workers believe that community has little knowledge about those facilities.

**(4x 2 = 8 marks)**

- b) Suggest the most appropriate research type (design) for following research questions. Explain reasons for your suggestion.
  - i. How often Rajarata University students seek medical advice on reproductive health related issues?
  - ii. Is there a relationship between drinking water from tanks and Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) among rural communities in North Central Province of Sri Lanka?

- iii. What is the best method to deliver knowledge on first aid for household injuries, to rural community members in Anuradhapura District conducting workshops or distributing leaflets?
- iv. What is the attitude of three-wheeler drivers on pictorial warning on cigarette packets?

(8 x 4 = 32 marks)

2. Write short notes on following topics.

- a) Why qualitative research design is needed in research.
- b) The advantages of using questionnaire for data collection.
- c) Disadvantages of using observation as a data collection method.
- d) Advantages of calculating sample size before commencing research study.

(7.5 x 4 = 30 marks)

3. Indicate **sampling population** and **sampling method** you would use for the studies outlined below. Explain reasons for your answer.

- a) A study to investigate the level of physical activity of Sri Lankan school children of 10-15 years age group.
- b) Ministry of Health plans to conduct a study to assess the knowledge and attitude of Public Health Midwife (PHM) on early childhood development.
- c) A study is planned to estimate the prevalence of smoking and alcohol consumption among teenagers in the western province of Sri Lanka.
- d) Occupational Health Unit of a university wants to do a study to find out whether working long hours per day using computers can cause chronic (long term) back pain in middle aged people.

(7.5 x 4 = 30 marks)