

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

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M.PSYCH.SC. IN HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY, FIRST YEAR, 2000-01

**Paper 3**

**PS 565 Communication, Counselling and Rehabilitation  
in Health Care Settings  
(Core Course III)**

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**Time Allowed: 3 hours**

*Please use a separate answer book for each section*

**Section A**

*Candidates are asked to respond to **three** questions, **one** of which must be from Section A and **one** of which must be from Section B*

1. A focus on skill building, personal control and the social environment permeates the health counselling process (Lewis, Sperry & Carlson, 1993). Discuss with reference to the design of treatment approaches to obesity or substance abuse.
2. Illustrate, using research examples, how assessment of individual differences in illness representations can assist in the prediction of illness-related behaviour, disability and psychological adjustment.

**or**

Write a well-referenced account of the role of control appraisals in adjustment to Rheumatoid Arthritis, noting pertinent methodological issues.

3. "Mass media appeals are quite effective in increasing people's knowledge of certain health hazards but they are less effective in changing their behaviour" (Stroebe, 2000). Discuss.

**or**

Research in social psychology has identified a number of source, message and audience variables which can determine the outcome of a persuasive attempt. Consider the implications of these findings for the design and delivery of effective health advertising.

## **Section B**

4. "The experience of chronic pain is a complex amalgam maintained by an interdependent set of biomedical, psychosocial and behavioural factors, whose relationships are not static but evolve and change over time" (Turk, 1996). Discuss.
5. While there is a general consensus that psychosocial interventions deserve inclusion in cardiac rehabilitation, there is an absence of a clear explanation about how these interventions work. Consider this statement, drawing on relevant empirical research.
6. "In chronic pain assessment, the avenues explored and the methods used to explore them should be determined by the unique circumstances of the client and the purposes of the assessment" (Karoly, 1987). Discuss.