

*Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh*  
*National University of Ireland, Galway*

GX 1128

**Semester II Examinations, 2004/2005**

Exam Code(s)	<u>1LC1</u>
Exam(s)	<u>Higher Diploma in Nursing Studies (Palliative Care)</u>
Module Code(s)	<u>NU150</u>
Module(s)	<u>Palliative approaches to symptom management</u>
Paper No.	<u>1</u>
Repeat Paper	<u></u>
External Examiner(s)	<u>Dr. Annie Topping</u>
Internal Examiner(s)	<u>Dr. Kathy Murphy</u>
	<u>Mr. Philip Larkin</u>

**Instructions:**

Please answer (3) questions. All questions carry equal marks. Please use separate answer books for each question. Please note that you are expected to use the literature and examples from your practice to support your answers where appropriate.

*4*

Duration	<u>2 hours</u>
No. of Answer books	<u>3</u>

**Requirements:**

Handout	<u></u>
MCQ	<u></u>
Statistical Tables	<u></u>
Graph Paper	<u></u>
Log Graph Paper	<u></u>
Other Material	<u></u>

No. of Pages	<u>2</u>
Department(s)	<u>Centre for Nursing Studies</u>

1. (a) Describe the key physiological processes associated with nausea and vomiting in advanced cancer and the actions/mechanisms underpinning its pharmacological management. (50%).

(b) Discuss the clinical advice you would give to a group of non-specialist nursing colleagues on caring for a patient with intractable vomiting due to intestinal obstruction. (50%)

2. With reference to specific physiology, discuss the care and information needs of an elderly gentleman who has opioid-induced constipation. (100%)

3. Write short notes on three of the following:

(a) The use of bisphosphonates in palliative care

(b) The care of the anorexic / cachectic patient

(c) The use of subcutaneous fluids at the end of life

(d) The assessment of Spinal Cord Compression (100%)

4. Outline the principle features of dyspnoea as a clinical problem at the end of life and describe the specialist nursing interventions which may assist in the care of a patient with end stage lung disease. (100%)

5. Outline the main causes of confusion and agitation in advanced cancer and describe the nursing approach to the assessment and palliative management of this problem. (100%)