

**OLLSCOIL na hÉIREANN GAILLIMH**  
**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY**  
**SUMMER EXAMINATION 2000**  
**ACCESS COURSE FOR REGISTERED NURSES 1AU1 & 1AU2**  
**HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY (HP 271)**

**Professor Rosemary Pope**  
**Dr. Margaret Barry**  
**Ms. Ann Feeney**  
**Dr. Saoirse NicGabhainn**  
**Ms. Pauline Clerkin**

**Please answer a total of four (4) questions.**

**Use a separate answer book for each question.**

**All questions carry an equal mark.**

**Support your answers with reference to the literature and your nursing experience as appropriate.**

**Time Allowed: Three (3) hours.**

1. (a) Discuss the factors which predict psychological adjustment to hospitalisation, with specific reference to staff and patient characteristics. (70%)  
(b) Identify how nurses can aid patient adjustment with specific reference to personal control. (30%).
2. The words 'stress' and 'coping' are commonly used in the popular media. Discuss how the popular understanding of these words differs from the psychological phenomena to which they refer. (100%)
3. Both cancer and coronary heart disease are thought to be associated with stress. Discuss the available evidence suggesting a link between stress and these diseases. (100%)
4. Give a brief outline of the nature of pain and discuss in detail TWO methods of treating pain which are drawn from psychological theory. (100%)

**CONTINUED OVERLEAF**

5. (a) What factors can affect a terminally ill person's ability to cope with his or her illness ? (80%)  
(b) In what ways can the nurse support this person? (20%)

6. Discuss the factors, which influence health service utilisation in relation to  
**EITHER:**

(a) Older people

**OR**

(b) Travellers.

(100%)

**END**