

Modified Essay

QUESTIONS

Modified Essay 4

(24 marks)

Each question within this modified essay will be marked by a different examiner. The examiner marking this question will not have access to your answers to the other questions. Therefore, please ensure that you address each question separately and specifically. Answer this question fully, even if you believe that you have partly covered its content in your answers to other questions.

You are the on-call psychiatrist to a public hospital and you are contacted by a psychiatry registrar.

Mark is a 45-year-old single successful car salesman who has presented to the Emergency Department expressing suicidal ideation with a plan and intent. He had been recently charged with sexual assault after a work function. He has no previous psychiatric history.

Question 4.1

Outline (list and justify) what specific information you would expect the registrar to have obtained from Mark.

(12 marks)

The registrar informs you that, on examination, Mark is distressed and tearful. Mark is fearful of legal costs. He reports he cannot recall the incident on the night and states that he was very intoxicated that night. Mark says he will kill himself if he is jailed. He has stated that he is too ashamed to discuss this matter with his parents.

A bed is available but the registrar expresses uncertainty about whether or not to admit Mark to an inpatient unit.

Question 4.2

Outline (list and justify) what in Mark's history and presentation would indicate that he needs admission.

(6 marks)

A few weeks later, the registrar contacts you, advising that they have received a request from Mark's solicitor (with signed consent) asking for a report regarding the assessment on the night of his presentation. Your service has a policy of responding to such requests.

Your registrar asks your advice on how to prepare such a report.

Question 4.3

Describe (list and explain) your advice to the registrar.

(6 marks)