

ENVR230 Fall 2008

In-class examination Tues Sept 16, 2008

Answer four (4) out of the following four (4) questions.

Sections marked with * have no “right” or “wrong” answers - what I am looking for are your thoughts and how you organize them and rationalize them.

Question 1: Agencies involved in Environmental Health

- A. List and describe the major agencies that are concerned with environmental health in the USA. What are their missions, what are their roles?
- B. How much do their roles overlap? Does this help or hinder environmental protection?
- *C. If you had absolute power to reorganize the way this country is governed, how would you organize environmental health protection?

Question 2: Typhoid fever

- A. What is the causative agent of typhoid fever?
- B. How is this agent transmitted?
- C. Describe briefly the public health threat that was attributed to Typhoid Mary
- D. What are the major public health steps that control the spread of typhoid fever at present?

Question 3: Cholera

- A. Why was cholera such a public health problem one-two centuries ago?
- B. Is this disease still found today?
- C. What public/environmental health measures have been taken to prevent this disease from being the major killer that it was a century or more ago?

Question 4: Mortality then and now.

- A. Compare and contrast the major causes of mortality in the USA reported for the present times with those observed a century or more ago.
- B. To what causes do you attribute any changes in mortality patterns?
- *C. What public/environmental health measures could you suggest to change the current pattern (remember, it's a zero-sum game- we all have to die from some cause).
- *D. Under what circumstances might we see in the USA a return to 19th century patterns of mortality?