



CMEL

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
CENTRE FOR MEDICAL ETHICS AND LAW

The Centre for Medical Ethics and Law (CMEL) develops new ideas and solutions in response to the big ethical, legal and policy questions of medicine and health.

The Governance of the Progress of Gene-Editing Technologies: A Critical Response from a Biomedical, Ethical, and Legal Perspective

24 March 2022, Thursday
10:00 am – 12:00 pm (Hong Kong Time)
Live Zoom Session

SPEAKERS:

Prof Yvonne Cripps *Chimeras and Personhood — The question of whether the advent of chimeras such as pig-human and mouse-embryos alters legal concepts of personhood*

Harry T. Ice Chair of Law Professor, Maurer School of Law, Indiana University – Bloomington, USA



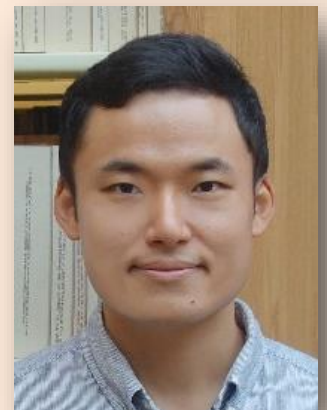
Prof Hannah Kim *Reconsidering the 14-day Rule of Human Embryo for Human Germline Genome Editing: A South Korean Perspective*

Research Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Medicine, Yonsei University, South Korea



Dr Minsung Kim *A Study on Researchers' Responsibility for Using CRISPR-Cas9 on Embryos in South Korea*

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong



Registration & Details:

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Enquiry:

3917-1845 / cmel@hku.hk

Organised by:



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About the Webinar

The disruptive gene-editing technologies in healthcare and biomedical research improve human and environmental conditions. The governance of the progress of gene-editing technologies has been developed and promotes recognition of the attending biomedical, ethical, and legal considerations. Nevertheless, gene-editing technologies tend to be construed and implemented in ways that overtly threaten humanness with biomedical, ethical, and legal concerns. This Webinar, “*The Governance of the Progress of Gene-Editing Technologies: A Critical Response from a Biomedical, Ethical, and Legal Perspective*”, explores how academic and scientific researchers try to balance the benefits of progress and humanness. It also contributes to the biomedical, ethical, and legal literature on gene-editing technologies.

Chair & Speakers

Speakers

Prof Yvonne Cripps

Harry T. Ice Chair of Law Professor, Maurer School of Law, Indiana University – Bloomington, Indiana, USA

Prof Hannah Kim

Research Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Medicine, Yonsei University, South Korea

Dr Minsung Kim

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, Faculties of Law and Medicine, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Chair

Dr Calvin W. L. Ho

Associate Professor of Law & Co-Director, Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, Faculties of Law and Medicine, The University of Hong Kong

Programme

The Governance of the Progress of Gene-Editing Technologies: A Critical Response from a Biomedical, Ethical, and Legal Perspective

24 March 2022, Thursday
10:00 am – 12:00 pm (Hong Kong Time)
11:00 am – 1:00 pm (South Korea Time)

23 March 2022, Wednesday
10:00 pm – 12:00 am (US EDT Time)

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 10:00 - 10:05 | Introductory remarks by the Chair |
| 10:05 - 10:30 | <p>Presentation 1:</p> <p>Prof Hannah Kim Research Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Medicine, Yonsei University, South Korea</p> <p><i>Title: Reconsidering the 14-day Rule of Human Embryo for Human Germline Genome Editing: A South Korean Perspective</i></p> |
| 10:30 - 10:55 | <p>Presentation 2:</p> <p>Dr Minsung Kim Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, Faculties of Law and Medicine, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong</p> <p><i>Title: A Study on Researchers' Responsibility for Using CRISPR-Cas9 on Embryos in South Korea</i></p> |
| 10:55 - 11:20 | <p>Presentation 3:</p> <p>Prof Yvonne Cripps Harry T. Ice Chair of Law Professor, Maurer School of Law, Indiana University – Bloomington, Indiana, USA</p> <p><i>Title: Chimeras and Personhood — The question of whether the advent of chimeras such as pig-human and mouse-embryos alters legal concepts of personhood</i></p> |
| 11:20 - 11:50 | Discussion |
| 11:50 - 12:00 | Q&A and Conclusion |

Abstracts

PRESENTATION 1

Prof Hannah Kim

Research Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Medicine, Yonsei University, South Korea

Title: Reconsidering the 14-day Rule of Human Embryo for Human Germline Genome Editing: A South Korean Perspective

In South Korea, the Bioethics and Safety Act has adopted the “14-day rule” which refers to the basic research principle to limit human embryo research before appearing primitive streak since 2004. However, current broader scientific achievements on self-organization of human embryo in vitro, genome editing research regarding the animal or chimeric embryo, and human organoid research have re-emerged discussion for the “14-day rule.” This presentation explores the legal and regulatory gaps between genome editing research and the “14-day rule” considering genome editing research in South Korea and provides some further agendas in the country.

PRESENTATION 2

Dr Minsung Kim

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, Faculties of Law and Medicine, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Title: A Study on Researchers’ Responsibility for Using CRISPR-Cas9 on Embryos in South Korea

CRISPR-Cas9 is one of the gene-editing technologies that have infinite potential. It may provide human beings with many benefits or cause unanticipated challenges. The governance as standards setting or regulation of gene-editing technologies can contribute to keeping a balance between scientific value and ethical commitments. Guaranteeing public participation provides an additional opportunity to think about ethical and moral considerations: For whose benefit the internationally discussed governance of gene-editing technologies is directed at? There is a doubt regarding whether the governance justifies scientific researchers’ gene-editing research. Suppose that governance promotes the advancement of CRISPR-Cas9, it should also encourage greater research responsibility. If not, there may be tragedies brought about by the misconduct of researchers. Thus, the essential matter on the governance for the research of CRISPR-Cas9 is the researchers’ responsibility.

PRESENTATION 3

Prof Yvonne Cripps

Harry T. Ice Chair of Law Professor, Maurer School of Law, Indiana University – Bloomington, Indiana, USA

Title: Chimeras and Personhood — The question of whether the advent of chimeras such as pig-human and mouse-embryos alters legal concepts of personhood

Chimeras, in the form of pig-human embryos engineered by CRISPR-Cas9 and other biotechnologies, have been created as potential sources of organs for transplantation. Against that background, and in an era of "precision medicine," this Article examines the concept of the global genetically modified person and asks whether humanness and personhood are being eroded, or finding new boundaries in intellectual property and constitutional law.

Biographies

SPEAKERS

Prof Yvonne Cripps

Harry T. Ice Chair of Law Professor, Maurer School of Law, Indiana University – Bloomington, Indiana, USA



Professor Cripps, an internationally acclaimed scholar and teacher, became the first holder of the Harry T. Ice Chair of Law at Indiana University in 2000. She specializes in intellectual property law and biotechnology. Her book *Controlling Technology: Genetic Engineering and the Law*, published in 1980, was the first comprehensive treatment of the legal implications of biotechnology. She is also the author of other books, including *The Legal Implications of Disclosure in the Public Interest*, now in its second edition, and more than 40 articles on intellectual property, privacy law, and biotechnology.

In addition to her years in the faculty of law at Cambridge University, she has regularly taught as a visiting professor at the Cornell Law School and also at the University of Texas at Austin as well as in Paris. Professor Cripps is a barrister in both England and New Zealand, and has served as an advisor on intellectual property law and biotechnology to the House of Lords, on biotechnology issues to the New Zealand Government, on constitutional matters to the Sri Lankan Ministry of Justice, and as a consultant on intellectual property to various law firms and corporations. Her work has been discussed in the *Harvard Law Review*, *The Boston Globe* and by the *BBC*.

Prof Hannah Kim

Research Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Medicine, Yonsei University, South Korea



Hannah Kim (MD, PhD) is a research assistant professor at College of Medicine, Yonsei University, South Korea. She studied medicine at Yonsei University and holds a PhD in healthcare law in 2015 from Yonsei University. After working at the Department of Medical Law and Ethics at Yonsei University for one year as a fellow, she studied at the Centre of Genomics and Policy, McGill University, Canada as a visiting professor from 2018 to 2019. She has been a member of the Ethics and Governance Committee of International Cancer Genome Consortium, a member of international panels of the International Genetic Discrimination Observatory and a member of the advisory board for an US NIH-funded research project on the governance of preventive gene editing and incidental enhancement. Since 2011, she has participated in ELSI and healthcare policy projects on biobanking, precision medicine, gene editing, 3D bioprinting, DTC-GT, neuroscience and rare diseases. Recently she has focused on 3-year digital nanomedicine project funded by the National Research Foundation of Korea as a principal investigator. She has published 22 peer reviewed research articles and 3 book chapters in intellectual property right, genomic data sharing, genetic discrimination, informed consent and privacy.

Dr Minsung Kim

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, Faculties of Law and Medicine, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

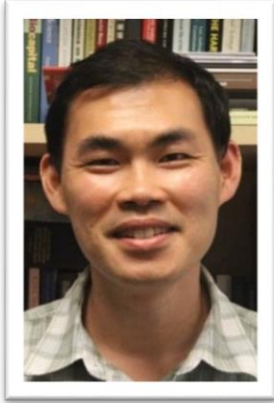


Dr Minsung Kim joined the University of Hong Kong (HKU), the Department of Law and the Centre for Medical Ethics and Law in May 2021 as a Post-doctoral Fellow. His scholarly research interests involve law, medicine, and bioethics; reproductive contracts; contracts; torts; and product liability. His primary scholarship explores how legal disciplines can keep up with outpaced reproductive technological innovations. His work based on an interdisciplinary study involving the combination of bioethical and legal disciplines aims to narrow these gaps. His scholarship also examines how the legal disciplines of torts and product liability can catch up with technological innovations to protect consumers from mass production and e-commerce platforms.

CHAIR

Dr Calvin W. L. Ho

Associate Professor of Law & Co-Director, Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, Faculties of Law and Medicine, The University of Hong Kong



Calvin is Associate Professor with the Faculty of Law, and Co-Director of the Centre for Medical Ethics, at the University of Hong Kong. His research is primarily on the governance of health and biomedical technologies, including human genome editing, human pluripotent stem cell research, and health technologies based on Artificial Intelligence and data analytics. He is an Ethics Board member of Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders), and a member of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator Ethics Working Group of the World Health Organization.

About CMEL



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THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
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The Centre for Medical Ethics and Law (CMEL) develops new ideas and solutions in response to the big ethical, legal and policy questions of medicine and health. CMEL is the first cross-faculty interdisciplinary institution of its kind in the region. It was founded in 2012 by the LKS Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Law at The University of Hong Kong as a joint inheritor of their vibrant intellectual traditions dating back to 1887 and 1969 respectively.

Today, CMEL brings together bioethicists, academic lawyers, medical scientists, and other scholars to conduct cutting edge bioethical and legal research and contribute to policy development in flagship areas like digital health and emergent technologies, mental health and capacity, and population and global health.

Research, teaching and knowledge exchange—CMEL’s core initiatives—aim to ensure that developments in biomedicine and public health will be underpinned by ethical and legal considerations.

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