

CMEL NEWSLETTER

We are CMEL! Welcome to the fourteenth issue of the CMEL Newsletter! This publication aims to update you on the latest news and information in the biomedical world. We will also share information about upcoming events, so stay tuned! Find out more about CMEL. We also have a Facebook page, you can follow us here.

Top stories in this newsletter

CMEL April Events



CMEL had a very eventful April this year, with the introduction of our Continuing Medical Education series, our twin symposiums on 'Policy and Regulatory Responses to New Genomic and Reproductive Technologies' and 'Privacy, Data Protection and Data-Sharing in Biomedical Research', and lectures by Dr Jeff Skopek and Mr James Badenoch QC. A very big thank you to all our speakers, panelists and to all our participants for your support. Please stay tuned for a conference report on what was discussed at the symposiums.

本中心在過去的四月份舉辦了多個活動,包括第一個持續醫學進修課程,兩個座談會及兩個公開講座。本中心非常感謝所有講者及參加者的支持。本中心將會上載座談會的會議報告,敬請留意。

In the News:



Liver Transplant Patient Infected with Hepatitis C

In a first-of-its-kind incident, a liver transplant patient was infected with hepatitis C via a reusable blood collection tool. According to Professor Yuen Kwok-yung, who was responsible for leading the investigation of the incident, the source of the virus was a drug addict who was at the hospital at the same time. The virus had been transmitted through small droplets of blood on a reusable plastic blood tube holder. He argued that this should not be considered medical negligence, however, given that WHO does not prohibit the reusing of this tool. Read more here.

一名肝移植病人於醫院經抽血感染了丙型肝炎。袁國勇教授帶領的專家團隊發現病毒源頭是可重用輔助抽血器上來自一名濫藥男病人的小血點。但因現時世衛並沒有禁止重用輔助抽血器,他認為不應視這事件為醫療失誤。這也是世界第一宗經可重用輔助抽血器在醫院傳播丙型肝炎的案例。請<u>按此</u>閱讀有關報導。

In Commentary:





This commentary piece explores whether and how it is more difficult for those with intellectual disabilities to make decisions about end-of-life care. While laws often prevent legal guardians from being able to decline life-sustaining treatment on behalf of their wards, the author argues that the downside of such laws is that it is very difficult for such individuals to avoid unwanted care. This piece explores how a legalistic approach to end-of-life decisions may be problematic for both the patients and their legal guardians. Read more here.

此評論文章探討有智力障礙的人會否難以為末期治療作決定。很多地方的法律會防止監護人為受監護人拒絕治療,但作者認為這會令有智力障礙的人沒辦法避免不必要的治療。請按此閱讀有關文章。

Feature:

A resting place for miscarried fetuses



This piece explores the ordeal that parents of miscarried fetuses face in their attempt to locate a final resting place for their child. This is a problem because the Hospital Authority only recognizes and certifies miscarried fetuses beyond 24 weeks as stillbirths, and the burial of an uncertified stillborn child is a criminal offence. This piece explores the stories of several such parents, as well as initiatives of religious institutions to create burial grounds for these miscarried fetuses. Read more here.

Please stay tuned for CMEL's symposium on this topic which will be held later this year. For those who are interested, please see here for a link to an opinion piece by our Co-Director Associate Professor Terry Kaan on this issue.

這篇報導探討香港人父母希望埋葬流產胎兒時遇上的困難。現時,醫管局只承認胎齡滿24週的胎兒為「非活產嬰兒」,而埋葬未經醫管局證明的流產胎兒於香港屬於刑事罪行。此報導探討一些父母的故事,以及一些宗教組織如何為提供相關服務作出努力。請<u>按此</u>閱讀有關報導。本中心將於今年舉行有關的座談會,敬請留意。請<u>按此</u>閱讀中心聯席主任簡尚恆副教授相關的一篇評論文章。

In Entertainment:

Raw Water



The rise of the 'raw water' trend has many public health experts gravely concerned. In this video from The Daily Show, Desi Lydic talks to Live Water founder Mukhande Singh and food safety expert Marion Nestle about the issue. Watch the video here. For more background on raw water and Mukhande Singh, read more here.

最近美國喝「生水」的潮流令人擔心。The Daily Show 訪問了其中一個發起人和食物安全專家了解情況。請<u>按此</u>觀看有關影片。欲了解此潮流的背景,請按此閱讀有關報導。

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