We are CMEL! Welcome to the seventeenth 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

**In the News:** Travel alert for Pakistan issued by the US due to ongoing outbreak of typhoid superbug

In further news about antimicrobial resistance, the United States has issued a travel alert for Pakistan in light of the ongoing outbreak of an extremely drug-resistant new strain of typhoid fever which is resistant to five different antibiotics. The strain was first identified in November 2016, and since then, it has spread throughout the country, with 800 people infected and at least 4 dead. Read more here.

**In Commentary:** Headspace aims to become first FDA-approved prescription meditation app

Headspace Health is aiming to launch the first prescription meditation app. Clinical trials will begin this summer, and it is hoped that FDA approval will be obtained by 2020. Developers behind this app are aiming to use this app to help treat twelve mental and physical conditions. In this commentary article, the author discusses her research in the world of smartphone mental health apps, exploring different types of apps and the risks that might be associated with their use. Read more here.

**Feature:** Archbishop and daughters speak out on issues of mental health and disability

The archbishop of Canterbury and his daughters have recently spoken out on disability and mental health on a podcast focusing on disability. In particular, they discussed the archbishop’s daughter Ellie Welby and her struggle with dyspraxia and discrimination. Although the archbishop has not prayed for Ellie’s condition because he believes it is a part of her and that she is precious, Ellie has sometimes questioned her faith because of her situation. Read in more detail here.

**Analysis:** How the New York Court of Appeals reinstated influenza mandate for daycares

In this piece, the author discusses the recent case of Garcia v. New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, where the New York Court of Appeals reinstated a mandatory flu vaccine for all the daycares under the city’s jurisdiction. The author analyses the reasoning of the case, and argues that the court had correctly decided that the mandatory flu vaccine was well within the New York City Board of Health’s authority. Read more here.

Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, The University of Hong Kong
cmel@hku.hk
Room 9.21, 9/F, Cheng Yu Tung Tower, Centennial Campus, The University of Hong Kong
(+852) 3917 1845