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We are CMEL! Welcome to the twenty-second 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

Application portal for the 2019 intake of the Master of Laws in Medical Ethics and Law programme open



The online application portal for the September 2019 intake of the Master of Laws in Medical Ethics and Law programme of the University of Hong Kong is now open. Applications will close on 28 February 2019. Read more [here](#).

香港大學的法學碩士(醫學倫理與法律)課程(2019年9月入學)現正招生，截止日期為2019年2月28日，[按此](#)閱讀更多。

Workshop on the legal and ethical responsibility of healthcare institutions and professionals



Our workshop entitled "Hospitals, Doctors and Nurses: The law and ethics of responsibility" was successfully held on 30 November and 1 December 2018. The workshop was accredited with continuing education points by the Law Society of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine and the Hong Kong Doctors Union. Read more [here](#).

我們於2018年11月30日及12月1日舉辦了關於醫療機構及人員的法律及倫理責任的研討會，該研討會獲香港律師會、香港醫學專科學院及香港西醫工會授予持續進修學分。[按此](#)閱讀更多。

Case Update:

English case potentially changing the law of patient confidentiality set for trial next year



A patient was diagnosed with Huntington's disease in the United Kingdom. The hospital did not inform his pregnant daughter of his condition or the risk that the daughter and the child then in her womb would inherit the disease. The daughter was subsequently diagnosed with the disease, and the child she gave birth to had a 50% chance of developing the disease. The daughter sued, among others, the relevant hospital trust for failing to disclose to her her father's condition and the risk above. The Court of Appeal of the UK quashed the order striking out the daughter's claim. This case is now set for trial next year and is expected to impact on the legal obligations owed by healthcare institutions and professionals to the relatives of a patient to disclose genetic information. Read more [here](#).

一名被診斷患上亨廷頓舞蹈病的英國醫院病人有一個懷孕的女兒，該醫院並無告知她其父患上此病以及她和所懷孩子遺傳此病的風險。該女士後來患上此病，該孩子則有一半機會將來患上此病。該女士就此事於英國控告包括相關的醫院信託在內的多名被告，英國上訴庭推翻剔除該女士的申索的命令，該案將於明年審理並可能影響醫療機構和人員對患者親屬披露遺傳資料的法律義務。[按此](#)閱讀更多。

In the News:

Call for review of the regulation of proprietary Chinese medicine in Hong Kong



The Ombudsman urges the Hong Kong government to review the regulation of proprietary Chinese medicine. Currently, a proprietary product will only be categorized as a "proprietary Chinese medicine" in Hong Kong if it composes **solely** of the following as active ingredients: (i) any Chinese herbal medicines or (ii) any materials of herbal, animal or mineral origin customarily used by the Chinese or (iii) any medicines and materials referred to in (i) and (ii) above. The Ombudsman is concerned that this might allow proprietors to circumvent the requirement for registration as a proprietary Chinese medicine by adding some ingredient which is not a medicine or material referred to in (i) or (ii) above as an active ingredient such that the product would not be categorized as a "proprietary Chinese medicine" and be subjected to regulation. Read more [here](#).

香港法例下只有當產品的有效成分純粹由(i)任何中藥材或(ii)慣常獲華人使用的任何源於植物、動物或礦物的物料或(iii)第(i)及(ii)項提述的任何藥材及物料組成，才會被視為需註冊的中成藥。申訴專員指藥商可能藉加入其他材料作有效成分規避註冊為中成藥的要求及政府對中成藥的規管，並呼籲政府檢討。[按此](#)閱讀更多。

In Commentary:

Biotechnology firms will soon launch a genetic screening service which will allow parents to choose embryos which will more likely become healthy grown-ups



In further news about reproduction and genetics, two biotechnology firms will launch a genetic screening service which will allow parents to choose for implantation in the mother's womb embryos which will more likely become healthy grown-ups. Read more [here](#).

兩家生物技術公司將推出基因篩查服務，以供父母選擇較可能成為健康成人的胚胎作人工受孕。詳情請[按此](#)。