



NOVEMBER ISSUE 2018

We are CMEL! Welcome to the twenty-first 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

Conference – “Who Owns Your Body? – Beyond The Physical”



Our conference “Who Owns Your Body? – Beyond The Physical” was successfully held this month. We would like to thank all of those who came. Our Co-Director Dr Philip Beh suggested in the conference that hospitals in Hong Kong could set a reasonable time limit for keeping “unclaimed” dead bodies in hospitals beyond which the bodies could be passed to the government for appropriate burial arrangements. Click [here](#) for the newspaper article [Chinese only]. Please stay tuned for the conference report to be uploaded.

“Who Owns Your Body? – Beyond The Physical”研討會於本月完滿結束。本中心衷心感謝來賓參與。本中心總監馬宣立醫生於研討會提議設立無人認領的遺體存放於香港醫院的合理時限，於時限到達時將遺體轉送政府安葬。請[按此](#)閱讀報章報導。我們將上載研討會報告，請密切留意。

In the News: Media interview of CMEL’s Co-Director – commenting on world’s first gene edited babies



A Chinese scientist claimed to have created the world’s first two gene-edited babies, whose genes have been allegedly edited to bring about immunity to AIDS. The experiment was widely criticised for being unethical. Our Co-Director Dr Philip Beh shared his view on this matter in various radio programmes. Click [here](#) for one of the radio programmes [Chinese only].

一位中國科學家聲稱創造了世上首兩個基因編輯嬰兒，編輯基因的目的是使該等嬰兒免疫於愛滋，該實驗被指不道德。本中心總監馬宣立醫生在數個電台受訪評論此事，[按此](#)收聽其中一個節目。

Calls for legislative changes to facilitate implementation of advance directives in Hong Kong

There have been calls for legislative changes to allow healthcare professionals to, without fear for legal liability, act in accordance with advance directives in which patients indicate that they would prefer not to undergo life-sustaining treatment in certain situations. Read more [here](#).

近日不少人呼籲修改香港法律，以使醫護人員在遵照病人的預設醫療指示在指定情況下不進行維持生命治療時，不必擔心因此招致法律責任。[按此](#)閱讀更多。

Mental capacity requirement caused a terminally ill patient to have a medically assisted death earlier than she planned in Canada

A patient with terminal cancer who wanted a medically assisted death had to opt for this months earlier than she had planned because Canadian law required that she be mentally capable at the time she opted for such a death, and she expected that the cancer and medication might render her mentally incapable later. This has aroused concerns over the law, which effectively forces some terminally ill patients to choose between an early death or a death in pain. Read more [here](#).

加拿大法律規定病人決定採取醫療輔助死亡時必須有精神上的行為能力，一名末期癌症病人擔憂癌症及治療會使她失去此能力，故此她唯有比計劃提早數月進行醫療輔助死亡。[按此](#)閱讀更多。

CMEL’s Brief: Debut of the mascot “Anyone” and calls for passing a Good Samaritan law in Hong Kong



The Fire Services Department of Hong Kong has debuted a first-aid mascot called “Anyone” and urged members of the public to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on others in cases of emergencies. This gives rise to calls for passing a Good Samaritan law to protect volunteer rescuers from potential legal liability which might arise where a mistake is made during the rescue. Read CMEL’s brief [here](#).

香港消防處推出名為“任何仁”的吉祥物，鼓勵市民對他人進行心肺復甦急救。不少人呼籲香港訂立好撒馬利亞人法，以保障施救者避免因施救失誤而招致法律責任。請[按此](#)閱讀本中心的評論。