



MAY ISSUE 2019

We are CMEL! Welcome to the twenty-seventh 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

### New Book:



### **Eastern and Western Perspectives on Surrogacy**

We are pleased to announce the publication of *Eastern and Western Perspectives on Surrogacy*, a book arising from [the “Eastern and Western Perspectives on Surrogacy” conference](#), which was co-organized by CMEL and the Centre for Law, Medicine and Life Sciences of the University of Cambridge. Among the authors are Associate Professor Mr Terry Kaan and Assistant Professor Ms Daisy Cheung, who are CMEL’s Co-Director and Deputy Director respectively. Mr Kaan is also one of the editors. Read more about the book [here](#).

《東方和西方關於代孕的觀點》(“Eastern and Western Perspectives on Surrogacy”)一書近日出版，此書起源自本中心與劍橋大學法律、醫學及生命科學研究中心合辦的[同名會議](#)。本中心總監簡尚恒副教授及副總監張天目助理教授為此書的其中兩位作者，而簡副教授為此書的編輯之一。[按此](#)閱讀更多。

### In the News:



### **New abortion bans in the States and their implications for the landmark abortion ruling**

Recently in the United States (US), there is a wave of new abortion bans, some of which make no exceptions for rape or incest. Alabama’s new law prohibits abortion at any stage except when abortion is necessary in order to avoid a “serious health risk” to the woman, although procedures which do not fall within the definition of “abortion” will not be covered by this rule. Missouri’s new law bans an abortion past 8 weeks of gestational age subject to some exceptions. Louisiana lawmakers just passed a bill to ban the abortion of a foetus with a detectable “heartbeat” subject to some exceptions, and similar “heartbeat” bans have been signed into law in Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi and Ohio. Many believe that these new abortion bans will be ruled unconstitutional by the lower courts in light of *Roe v Wade*, the landmark US Supreme Court case that affirmed the right to choose an abortion. However, the challenges to the constitutionality of these new abortion bans might offer a chance for *Roe v Wade* to be overturned in the conservative-majority Supreme Court. Read more [here](#).

最近美國多個州制訂新法律禁止墮胎，當中部分法律在強姦或亂倫個案也禁止墮胎。阿拉巴馬州的新法律規定，除非須墮胎以避免孕婦的“嚴重健康風險”，否則禁止在孕期內任何時間墮胎(儘管不符“墮胎”定義的程序不受該規條影響)。密蘇里州的新法律規定，除法定的例外情況外，禁止在孕期達8週後墮胎。路易斯安那州立法機關剛通過，除法定的例外情況外，禁止對有可檢測“心跳”的胎兒墮胎，而密西西比州、俄亥俄州、佐治亞州及肯塔基州也訂立了類似法律。因美國最高法院在 *Roe v Wade* 一案肯定選擇墮胎的權利，下級法院或裁定這些新法律違憲，但這些新法律的合憲訴訟或造就保守派佔多數的美國最高法院推翻該判決。[按此](#)閱讀更多。

### **Hong Kong Medical Council decided to exempt non-locally trained specialist doctors seeking a full registration from the internship requirement**

The Hong Kong Medical Council has adopted a proposal which will allow non-locally trained specialist doctors to obtain a full registration as a medical practitioner in Hong Kong without having to complete an internship as long as they have served at the Hospital Authority, the Department of Health or the medical school of the University of Hong Kong/ the Chinese University of Hong Kong for 3 years and passed the licensing examination. Read more [here](#).

香港醫務委員會通過方案，非本地培訓專科醫生在港以有限度註冊在醫管局、衛生署、香港大學醫學院或香港中文大學醫學院服務滿3年並通過執業試後，可在豁免實習的情況下作正式醫生註冊。[按此](#)閱讀更多。

### **Smuggling of blood samples from Mainland China into Hong Kong to identify the gender of fetuses**

Recently middlemen are advertising on social media to smuggle blood samples of pregnant women from Mainland China into Hong Kong for foetus gender tests in order to get around Mainland China’s ban on foetus gender tests for non-medical purposes. Read more [here](#).

中國內地已禁止非醫學需要的胎兒性別鑑定，近日有中介人在社交媒體上推廣可以代為將孕婦血液樣本從中國內地偷運至香港以鑑定胎兒性別，[按此](#)閱讀更多。

### In Commentary:



### **Why mitochondrial replacement prevents the inheritance of mitochondrial diseases but does not enable parents to make “designer” babies**

A recent editorial of *The New York Times* discusses how the mitochondrial replacement procedure can prevent the inheritance of mitochondrial diseases without enabling parents to “design” their children. Read more [here](#).

最近《紐約時報》的一則社論討論了為何線粒體替代技術能預防線粒體病由母親遺傳予嬰兒但卻不能用以「設計」嬰兒。[按此](#)閱讀更多。