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We are CMEL! Welcome to the twentieth 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 Case Briefing: Supreme Court finds that receptionists at A&E departments owe a tortious duty of care to patients not to provide inaccurate/misleading information regarding waiting times

In a recent judgment, the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom held that receptionists at Accident & Emergency (A&E) departments owe a tortious duty of care to patients not to provide inaccurate/misleading information regarding waiting times. Please click here for a case summary prepared by CMEL.

In the News:

Hong Kong man became the first person in the world to be found infected by a rat Hepatitis E virus

The world’s first case of rat Hepatitis E virus infecting a human has been discovered in Hong Kong. Previously such virus was only found in animals such as rats. Read more here.

Patient at a Hong Kong public hospital died after a ward transfer during which his ventilation bag was not connected to oxygen supply

A patient at a Hong Kong public hospital died two days after a ward transfer during which his ventilation bag was not connected to oxygen supply. Read more here.

In Commentary: Is it ethical for doctors and caretakers to lie to dementia patients if telling the truth will cause the patients distress?

The New Yorker recently published an article on whether it is ethical for doctors and caretakers to lie to dementia patients if telling them the truth will cause them distress. A therapeutic technique that involves lying to dementia patients is criticised for being unethical insofar as it encourages delusions on the part of such patients. Those in defence of such technique, however, would argue that “truth cannot contribute to a good life”. Read more here.

According to the Bloomberg Health Care Efficiency Index, the healthcare system of Hong Kong claimed the title of the world’s most efficient healthcare system and that of Singapore came second in place. Read more here.

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