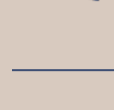


# CLINICAL ETHICS BULLETIN

NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS  
FROM AROUND THE WORLD  
CURATED BY CBME

May 2023, Issue 18



## NEWS & ARTICLES

### Old and lonely after a successful career, and even when living with family

By Ad Maulod and Angelique Chan // *The Straits Times*

Studies by the Duke-NUS Medical School's Centre for Ageing Research and Education (CARE) indicate shorter lifespans for older persons who are chronically lonely, and provide insights into what it means to be lonely in later years.

### Commentary: Should humans have babies in space?

By Victor Cole // *Channel News Asia*

The author explores some of the challenges and moral objections to extraplanetary reproduction, and whether a new kind of "space ethics" would be better suited to addressing the question.

### 'Care bots': a dream for carers or a dangerous fantasy?

By Emily Kenway // *The Guardian*

Advancing technologies in caregiving may have 'revolutionary' potential in supporting a presumably difficult process but they come with the cost of important human capabilities.

### F.D.A. eases ban on blood donations From gay and bisexual men

By Christina Jewett // *The New York Times*

A longstanding discriminatory ban on blood donations by men who have sex with men has been denounced by the U.S. agency, taking cues from Canada and the United Kingdom.

### MAID's evolving ethical tensions: Does it make dying with dignity easier than living with dignity?

By Alessandro Manduca-Barone, Julia Brassolotto, and Monique Sedgwick // *The Conversation*

In the aftermath of recent amendments to the Canadian medical assistance in dying law, the authors explore the emerging ethical tensions in the subject matter and their subsequent implications for professionals, patients, the health system, and public trust.

### Fertility test kits: affordable and easy but there are downsides

By Sarah Marsh // *The Guardian*

At-home hormone kits to test fertility reflect the growing shift from the traditional model of a doctor-patient relationship, to a direct-to-consumer model but raise several ethical, legal, and scientific concerns.

### NHS data breach: trusts shared patient details with Facebook without consent

By Shanti Das // *The Guardian*

In a major breach of data privacy and patient confidentiality, a covert tracking tool has been uncovered in 20 NHS trusts' websites which has been transferring identifiable personal and medical details of potentially millions of users to Facebook without their consent, despite assurances not to do so.



## PUBLICATIONS

### Fair domestic allocation of monkeypox virus countermeasures

By Govind Persad, R J Leland, Trygve Ottersen, Henry S Richardson, Carla Saenz, et al. // *The Lancet Public Health*

The authors propose five values towards ethical guidance in setting priorities for allocating countermeasures against mpox in the face of limited supply.

### Healthcare decision making for children in Singapore: The missing chapter in comparison with English law

By Hillary Chua // *International Journal of Law, Policy and the Family*

Presents a legal framework for answering questions pertaining to making healthcare decisions on behalf of minors in Singapore with insights from English judgments.

### What does it mean to call a medical device invasive?

By Eran Klein // *Medicine, Healthcare and Philosophy*

Invasiveness is often characterised as a theoretical and medical concept but has deeper, normative connotations.

### Ethics of live uterus donor compensation

By Ji-Young Lee // *Bioethics*

While deceased donations of uterus are considered ethically preferable to live donations due to harm-based concerns, there are scientific advantages to live donation. The paper discusses various conflicting considerations in defence of compensation to incentivise live donors beyond reimbursement.

### Gillick competence: an inadequate guide to the ethics of involving adolescents in decision-making

By Avraham Bart, Georgina Antonia Hall, and Lynn Gillam // *Journal of Medical Ethics*

The authors argue that the gillick competence test undermines opportunities for adolescent development due to the disproportionate focus on final decisional authority.

### Against commercial-assisted suicide

By Yoann Della Croce // *Bioethics*

Commercial assisted suicide could potentially be morally defended along the same lines as physician assisted suicide but presents an ethically and intrinsically flawed market as a commercial practice.



## BLOG POSTS

### China's National Health Commission bans single women from freezing eggs: with or without legal and ethical justifications?

By Hao Wang // *JME Blog*

The author argues that ethical arguments against egg freezing such as the slippery slope effect cannot justify a totalitarian legal ban against single women engaging in the procedure.

### Medical interpretation in the U.S. is inadequate and harming patients

By Riya Dahima, Melinda Luo, and Vrushali Dhongade // *Hastings Bioethics Forum*

Shortage of medical interpreters, misinterpretations and inefficiencies in translation technologies, and limitations on the number of supported languages suggest hindered cultural sensitivity, which can erode trust in patient-professional relationships and hamper quality healthcare service provision.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 17th Annual International Conference on Clinical Ethics and Consultation 2023

Theme: Clinical Ethics: Consultation and/or Education?

Dates: 7-10th June 2023

Venue: Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome

### Thinking Ethically About the Regulation of Health Technology

Speakers: Professor Henry T. (Hank) Greely, Professor Simon Chesterman, and Dr Insoo Hyun

Date: 28 Jun 2023

Time: 5.30pm to 7.00pm

Mode: In-person at NUSS Kent Ridge Guild House

### Executive Certificate in Healthcare Ethics and Law

Educators: - Dr Sumytra Menon and A/P Lee See Muah

Dates: Aug-Nov 2023

Time: 06:30pm - 08:00pm | Every Thursdays

Mode: Online

### Australasian Association of Bioethics and Health Law (AABHL) Conference 2023 [Abstracts submission open]

Dates: 19-22 November 2023

Venue: Brisbane, Australia

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