

CLINICAL ETHICS BULLETIN

NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS
FROM AROUND THE WORLD
CURATED BY CBME

Sep 2023, Issue 22

NEWS & ARTICLES

Meeting the basic medical needs of migrant workers

By Kok Yufeng and Ng Keng Gene // *The Straits Times*

Language barriers, long queues, and lack of awareness are some of the complex difficulties ailing the new primary healthcare system instituted specifically for migrant workers in Singapore.

COVID-19 patient died after transport from Batam to Singapore; doctor accused of multiple lapses

By Louisa Tang // *Channel News Asia*

An interim orders committee of the Singapore Medical Council (SMC) has placed conditional restrictions on a doctor's registration and provision of emergency evacuation services, due to lapses in standard of care as prescribed under the SMC's Ethical Code and Ethical Guidelines.

TikTok trend of users posing as IMH doctors 'worsens mental health stigma', but some social media users find it funny

By Loraine Lee // *Today Online*

TikTok users impersonating doctors from the Institute of Mental Health are uploading videos ridiculing persons who display unconventional behaviours and how they need to approach mental health professionals. This poses the threat of further stigmatising those in genuine need of mental health care.

Martha's rule: What it will mean for patients and their families

By Anna Bawden // *The Guardian*

In response to Martha Mills' death due to sepsis after failure to move her to intensive care despite concerns raised by the family, England is considering introducing a legal right to a second opinion for patients in rapidly deteriorating conditions.

The new status symbol is a full-body M.R.I.

By Dani Blum and Callie Holtermann // *The New York Times*

Influencers and celebrities are increasingly promoting full body MRI scans offered by private operators as a form of preventative screening. But experts are concerned that these scans could lead to non-specific findings and false positives, resulting in inefficient and unnecessary medical procedures for healthy persons.

PUBLICATIONS

Remote technologies and filial obligations at a distance: New opportunities and ethical challenges

By Yi Jiao (Angelina) Tian, Fabrice Jotterand, and Tenzin Wangmo // *Asian Bioethics Review*

The authors tackle traditional and novel ethical considerations in technology-aided caregiving, with particular focus on distance care arrangements.

Reasons and reproduction: Gene editing and gene selection

By Jeff McMahan and Julian Savulescu // *American Journal of Bioethics*

Contrary to the dominant position, the authors prefer gene editing which can improve the condition of a different, less well-off person developing from the embryo, over embryo selection which would probably cause a better-off person to be conceived.

Migration health ethics in Southeast Asia: A scoping review

By Shu Hui Ng, Sharon Kaur, Phaik Yeong Cheah, Zhen Ling Ong, Jane Lim, and Voo Teck Chuan // *Wellcome Open Research*

A scoping review of publications relating to ethical issues in healthcare and research involving various kinds of migrant communities identifies key themes and concepts as well as a need for more empirical research pertaining to these populations within this geographical setting.

Artificial intelligence in clinical decision-making: Rethinking personal moral responsibility

By Helen Smith, Giles Birchley, and Jonathan Ives // *Bioethics*

This paper proposes that moral responsibility for outcomes arising from the use of artificial intelligence systems in healthcare decision-making should be shared by the clinicians who use them as well as the companies developing these softwares.

Exploring view and experiences of the general public's adoption of digital technologies for healthy lifestyle in Singapore: A qualitative study

By Kumarasan Roystonn, P.V. AshaRani, Fiona Devi, Peizhi Wang, Yunjue Zhang, et al. // *Frontiers in Public Health*

Semi-structured interviews with 14 women and 16 men from the general Singaporean population reveal some of the perceived benefits and risks of harm, and cultural values surrounding the adoption of digital technologies for healthy lifestyles.

An ethical examination of donor anonymity and a defence of the legal ban on anonymous donation and the establishment of a central register

By Xavier Symons and Henry Kha // *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry*

The authors defend legislations invalidating anonymous donation of sperm and take the argument further in advocating for the creation of a central registry through which donor children can conveniently access reliable information about their donor parents.

BLOG POSTS

Beyond the gift of life: What else to expect from an organ transplant?

By Heidi Walsh // *Hastings Bioethics Forum*

Based on a recent collection of narrative essays, survivor's guilt, distress in post-surgical recovery, imbalanced focus on the needs of the organ, and unrealistic expectations are some of the main challenges faced by recipients of transplanted organs.

Who should give away their uterus?

By Ji-Young Lee // *Journal of Medical Ethics*

The author investigates whether and when it is ethically appropriate to ask potential living donors to provide their uterus for transplantation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Australasian Association of Bioethics and Health Law (AABHL) Conference 2023 [Registration opens!]

Dates: 19-22 November 2023

Venue: Brisbane, Australia

CENTRES Clinical Ethics Conference 2024

“Revisiting Best Interest”

Date: 11 & 12 January 2024 | Thu & Fri

Time: 8.30am to 5.30pm

Venue: NUSS Kent Ridge Guild House | NUS

Mode: In-person

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