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Medical Scam: JHU Postdoc Yi Cai practice medicine without license to thousands of patients

Hello,

We are writing to report Dr. Yi Cai, who claims to be a “JHU PHD in Genetics” but was later identified as a postdoc researcher working for JHU School of Medicine since 2007, is suspected to have been practising medicine without a license for at least two years.

Publishing at least 1500 articles and having more than 83k followers, Dr. Cai(Nickname:杀生丸) is an opinion leader on Zhihu.com(a website similar to Quora). However, Dr. Cai’s suspected medical scam was discussed in at least 600 articles on Zhihu.com. The most widespread article was upvoted by more than 5,700 users.

Dr. Cai’s suspected medical scams are summarized as follows:

1.Charging $60-100/hour, Dr.Cai has offered his service to at least thousands of patients. The patients suffered from different kinds of illnesses which included but were not limited to the following:

1.1 At least 12 types of cancer(Ovarian cancer, Cervical cancer, Lung cancer, Breast cancer, Stomach cancer, Cholangiocarcinoma, Pancreatic cancer, Leukemia, Liver cancer, Colorectal cancer, Lymphoma and etc.)

1.2 All types of Genetic Disorders

1.3 COVID-19

2. Dr. Cai provided cancer treatment through Gmail, Zhihu, QQ and Wechat.

Dr. Cai advertised himself as a “JHU PHD in Genetics“ in Zhihu.com, where he published articles on cancer treatment. At least 12 discussion groups were set up by Dr. Cai to manipulate the dying patients. Generally, Dr. Cai provided counselling through QQ and Wechat(Apps similar to Facebook Messenger) and received payment using his wife’s account in Zhifubao(App similar to Paypal). According to his articles, Dr. Cai has treated thousands of patients.

3. Dr. Cai recommended the patients to take medicine aggressively

Dr. Cai has suggested the patients take drugs without knowing the interaction and side effects of those drugs. Additionally, Dr. Cai has even recommended the patients to take off-label drugs, which violated not only the medical ethics, but also the Chinese law on drug regulation.

4. Dr. Cai marketed himself by demeaning the licensed doctors

To better sell himself, Dr. Cai continuously attacked the Chinese doctors(most of the patients are from China). He kept on selling the idea that he always fought against the outdated NCCN Guidelines. According to him, the Chinese doctors “hated” him because they were so incompetent that they could only follow the Guidelines, while Dr. Cai was capable of adapting some “state-of-art” targeted therapy.

Although Dr. Cai has offered medical service to at least 2000 patients for 3 years and profited for a great deal of money, he never displayed his license. As a result, here are the questions:

1.What is the relation between Dr.Cai and Johns Hopkins University? Is he authorized to use the title “JHU PHD in Genetics”?

2.Was Dr.Cai licensed to practice medicine?

3.What kind of cancer was Dr. Cai working on? Was he able to treat the 12 types of cancer patients?

4.How much did Dr. Cai profit? Did he report his income to the IRS?

Below is the link to the articles of how the suspected scam is exposed(written in Chinese).

How Dr. Cai’s true identity was revealed:

<https://www.zhihu.com/question/366165629/answer/1132713484>

How Dr. Cai’s scam was revealed:

<https://zhuanlan.zhihu.com/p/128977060>

User who questioned Dr. Cai practiced medicine without a license was blocked: <https://zhuanlan.zhihu.com/p/113816739>

Dr. Cai recommended COVID-19 patients to take veterinary medicine GS-441524:

<https://www.zhihu.com/question/387182828/answer/1148852613>

Best,