



Eugene S. Farley, Jr. Health Policy Center  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

# FRIDAY'S FEATURES

ISSUE 040320



NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

To all our beloved clinicians...YOU ARE EXTRAORDINARY. Thank you.

Vancouver [\*photographer pays tribute to healthcare workers\*](#)

This week's [Green Center Quick #COVID-19 Survey](#) is now live. Primary care clinicians, please consider adding your voice to the conversation by completing Series #4. [Click here](#) for Series #3 survey results.

Tweet from @Sahil Kapur: *"Even if the administration doesn't reopen the ACA for special enrollment during the coronavirus crisis, losing your job-based insurance is a qualifying life event that lets you sign up."*

Given the change of focus for all Coloradans, the Colorado Health Foundation has decided to cancel the 2020 Colorado Health Symposium in Keystone scheduled for July. Alternatives are being considered...stay tuned.

[Ben Platt & Cast of Dear Evan Hansen](#) is a 6 ½ minute YouTube video that includes heartfelt words from James Corden about the importance of being there for others in this time, and concludes with Ben Platt and the cast of Dear Evan Hansen performing "You Will Be Found."

A big thank you to Dr. Jon Samet (Farley Center steering committee member and Dean of the Colorado School of Public Health) and his team who are working hard to develop COVID-19 modeling data in partnership with the CU School of Medicine and the Colorado Department of Health and Environment.

[How a Denver Family Found Itself Saying Goodbye to COVID-19-Infected Father Over Video Chat](#) is a CPR News story by John Daley about a lovely local family in Denver who lost their patriarch to COVID-19, and how the last days played out.



## COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[\*How to live AND work at home without going stir crazy\*](#) is a story by David Pogue for *CBS Sunday Morning* that includes five rules, 1) learn how to use Zoom, 2) seek social contact, 3) kids and animals are officially allowed at work, 4) keep a routine, and 5) you're allowed to go outside – and you should!

[\*COVID-19 is harshly testing our capacities as physicians and medical staffers\*](#) is a story in *The Washington Post* by Dr. Ishani Ganguli who discusses how this pandemic is testing the capacity of a primary care system already short on doctors and long showing signs of wear.

[\*It's pandemic work, not "work from home"\*](#) is an opinion piece by Brad Judy, IT leader, on Linked In who makes a distinction between working from home and working in a pandemic. And how empathy and compassion become our most critical skills.

[\*Specialists, Primary Care Doctors Retrain for Hospital Frontlines as Colorado Coronavirus Cases Mount\*](#) is a CPR story by Allison Sherry who highlights the training involved in getting clinicians back in the hospital setting and familiar with process and flow.

[\*Women are using code words at pharmacies to escape domestic violence during lockdown\*](#) is a story by Ivana Kottasová and Valentina Di Donato for CNN about how the number of domestic violence cases has increased during this time of quarantine. European countries have put a scheme in place that provides women who are 'stuck' at home with an abuser, to go to a pharmacy (one of few places still open at this time) and use the codeword "mask 19" to the pharmacist who can then reach the police on their behalf.

[\*Why Coronavirus Is Humanity's Wake-Up Call\*](#) is an opinion piece in *Yes Magazine* by David Korten who indicates that this pandemic focuses attention in the United States on the disastrous deficiencies of a profiteering health care system.

[\*Lower Your Expectations, and Other Parenting Advice for the Era of COVID-19\*](#) is a CPR News story by Jenny Brundin who interviewed Dr. Scott Cypers, director of stress and anxiety programs at the CU Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Depression Center. He sees four different types of anxiety responses to COVID-19 and says that the antidote for all is awareness.

[\*Pollution and greenhouse gas emission have fallen across continent as countries try to contain the spread of the new coronavirus.\*](#) Is a story by Martha Henriques for the BBC Future about how in a matter of months, the world has been transformed. One noticeable change is the decrease in emissions/pollution.

[\*Mental Health in the Age of the Coronavirus\*](#) is an opinion piece in *The New York Times* by David Brooks who discusses the struggle between fear and comfort.



## POLICY EFFORTS

[\*Responding to COVID-19 – A Once-in-a-Century Pandemic?\*](#) Is a perspective piece in *The New England Journal of Medicine* by Bill Gates who discusses solving the immediate problem and work to be done to keep it from happening again.

[\*When Teaching Public Health Policy and Practice Becomes Reality: Lessons from the COVID-10 Crisis\*](#) is an opinion piece in *The Milbank Quarterly* by Joshua M. Sharfstein, associated dean for public health practice and training at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, who describes his experience teaching a course called, “Crisis and Response in Public Health Policy and Practice” from mid-January to mid-March...and how this public health crisis provided a framework for understanding what was happening.

[\*Colorado Is Creating Guidelines to Help Make Excruciating Coronavirus Care Decisions\*](#) is a CPR News story by John Daley about protocols being updated as resources become scarce. Dr. Matt Wynia, director of the Center for Bioethics and Humanities at the University of Colorado, was quoted as saying, “Crisis standards of care is not a decision point. It is thrust upon you. You have to make decisions. These are forced choice.”

[\*Individual Rights vs. the Common Good in the Age of COVID-19\*](#) is an article in *Front Porch*, a local NE Denver newspaper by Martina Will who interviewed three local experts, one being Dr. Daniel Goldberg, public health ethicist and member of the Farley Center team.

[\*A ‘seismic shift’ moves medicine online during COVID-10 crisis through telehealth technology\*](#) is a story in the *Steamboat Pilot* by Kari Dequine Harden who discusses this pandemic accelerated telehealth infrastructures exponentially. Dr. Chris Davis, medical director for virtual health at UCHealth said, “We made three years of progress in three weeks.”

[\*Boulder County patients, doctors report positive telemedicine experiences during coronavirus outbreak\*](#) is a story in the *Denver Post* by Brian Howell who reports on how two family medicine/sports medicine docs in Longmont, CO, find it “fascinating how much this pandemic is going to change a lot of how we do medicine. This is one thing that will be positive and will help the health systems in general.”

[\*Outbreak Uptake: Amazing Positive from Pandemic History\*](#) is a story in *CU Denver News* that offers a list of surprising positives that results from global outbreaks of the past.



## RESEARCH, DATA, EVALUATION

[\*Thousands of US medical workers furloughed, laid off as routine patient visits drop during coronavirus pandemic\*](#) is a story in *USA Today* by Kim Norvell and Jayne O'Donnell that reports on results of a AAFP and HealthLandscape report released yesterday that projects that by June, an estimated 60,000 family practices will close or significantly scale back, and 800,000 of their employees will be laid off, furloughed or have their hours reduced as they see a decline in business during the pandemic.

[\*The quest for the coronavirus vaccine\*](#) is a Ted Talk by Seth Berkley, epidemiologist and head of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, who discusses the effort to create a vaccine, the challenges, when it might be rolled out at scale and why we'll need global collaboration to get it done.

[\*How doctors put healthy people on a slippery slope to sickness\*](#) is an opinion piece by Steven Kussin for the *New York Post* who talks about screenings, the ensuing series of tests and their unintended consequences that are sometimes difficult to halt and can become sequentially more invasive, expensive and dangerous.

[\*KFF Health Tracking Poll – Early April 2020: The Impact of Coronavirus on Life in America\*](#) is a report by Ashley Kirzinger and colleagues that reports findings from the recent KFF Health Tracking poll, including that most Americans surveyed indicate that worry or stress related to the coronavirus has had a negative impact on their mental health.

[\*Physical Distancing with Social Connectedness\*](#) is an article in *Ann Fam Med* by Kurt Stange and colleagues about how COVID-19 is full of opportunity to use remote communication to develop healing human relationships. What we need in a pandemic is not social distancing, but physical distancing with social connectedness.



## MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIPS

[\*8 Things Every Medical-Legal Partnership Can Do Right Now to Respond to COVID-10\*](#) is a tip sheet from the National Center for Medical Legal Partnership compiled from a recent COVID-10 Town Hall with insights from partners and staff of the center.

[\*Medical-Legal Partnerships COVID-19 Town Hall\*](#) is a recording of a recent town hall webinar that explored strategies for coordinating health and legal efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic, and ways to navigate medical-legal partnership operational challenges during the crisis.

Next COVID-19 MLP Town Halls, April 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> at 11AM MST that will offer perspectives from the field, provide a deep dive into policy issues and respond to burning questions. The registration link will be available soon.

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