



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

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

ISSUE 060520



NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

The results from the [Green Center's Series](#) 12 Quick COVID-19 survey are now available, n=558 clinician respondents. Most report patients as their allies and valuing their care, in contrast to the lack of support/value from Federal government, private insurers, hospitals, health systems, and government insurers. Patient results from more than 1,000 respondents indicated that though in-person care is preferred, digital platforms provide valued access for many with comfort levels, high. For those of you who wish to contribute to this week's survey (due June 8th), you can access the form [here](#).

Just a couple of policy and health-focused resources that you may find especially useful at this moment in time. [Racial Equity Tools](#), [Possible Policy Solutions](#), [APHA Racial Equity webinar series](#), and a book by our very own [Dayna Bowen Matthew](#).

[The Colorado Primary Care Payment Reform Collaborative](#) is looking for and accepting applications for new members to serve a one-year term with the option to remain for a second year. Time commitment is 4-6 hours per month. The Division of Insurance is seeking people with a variety of experiences.

[Technology & COVID-19: The Way Forward](#) is a webinar June 8th, 8:30-9:30AM MT sponsored by the Colorado School of Public Health and the Denver Museum of Nature & Science and the Institute for Science & Policy. Dr. Alan Rudolph, VP of Research at CSU will discuss creative and innovative ways researchers are tackling this novel disease.

[Chancellor's Communiqué](#) is a call-to-action for members of the Anschutz Medical Campus spoken by its chancellor, Don Elliman.

[Systemic Racism Explained](#) is a 4.5 minute YouTube video that attempts to portray simply systemic racism.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[*Maintaining Professionalism in the Age of Black Death Is... A Lot*](#) is a story on *Medium* by Shenequa Golding about the stress, frustration and sadness that accompanies being a black professional in times of outrage.

[*Your Black Colleagues May Look Like They're Okay – Chances Are They're Not*](#) is a story by Danielle Cadet who describes how though black colleagues may be full of rage, fear and sadness, they don't take their pain to work even when working hard and contributing to society doesn't necessarily mean they won't be treated like human beings.

[*Reflections on race and the times*](#) is a posting on *CU Connections* by Theodosia Cook, CU Chief Diversity Officer, who offers personal reflections and leaves us with steps to take for better understanding: 1) become more self-aware, 2) understand the history of our country, and 3) take action.

[*In Hard-Hit Areas, COVID's Ripple Effects Strain Mental Health Care Systems*](#) is a posting by Cheryl Platzman Weinstock for *Kaiser Health News* about how even though mental health services have continued largely uninterrupted in areas with low levels of the coronavirus, behavioral health care workers in areas hit hard by COVID-19 have been overburdened. Simultaneously, people battling mental health disorders have become more stressed and anxious.

[*Finding a Cure for a Pandemic of Misinformation: Stories that caught our attention*](#) is a post by Xenia Shih Bion on the *California Health Care Foundation* site about how when there is a vacuum of information, misinformation will find a way to fill it.



POLICY EFFORTS

[*Statement on Racial Equity and the Adverse Effects of Racism by NAM President Victor J. Dzau*](#) is a posting on the *National Academy of Medicine* site by its president who committed to ensuring those of color working at NAM feel safe and supported, and to pursue racial equity in NAM's organizational policies and procedures. And that the NAM platform will be used to improve the lives of people who experience disproportionate health disparities, due to socioeconomic inequity, bias, and structural racism.

[*How technology and COVID-19 have revolutionized telepsychiatry*](#) is a story by Joe Gramigna for *Healio* who reports on a presentation by Dr. Jay Shore, director of telemedicine programming in the CU Department of Psychiatry. Dr. Shore provided an oral history of telemedicine in psychiatry that comes with its own set of strengths and weaknesses, and the significant changes that came with the COVID-19 pandemic. [Click here](#) to read about which changes state agencies are considering making permanent.

[*Opinion: WHO cuts will lead to maternal and childhood deaths across the world*](#) about how if Trump cuts ties with WHO, our country will effectively walk away from long-standing commitments to the world's most vulnerable, mothers and children, according to Dr. Stephen Berman, director, Center for Global Health, CU School of Public Health and a long-time pediatrician.

[*Racism in Medicine: Shifting the Power*](#) is a discussion piece written four years ago by Dr. J. Nwando Olayiwola, yet sadly little has changed since then. Dismantling of racist institutional structures is essential for any advancement.

[*You may not think you're racist. But that's not enough*](#) Is a story on *The Hill* by Anthony DeFlorio who discusses how Dr. Ubran X, Kendi's is redefining what it means to combat racism within more America.

[*The Importance of Mental Health Resources for Essential Workers-Now and In the Future*](#) is a post on *OHS Online* about how organizations and local communities should always provide mental health services, but there is arguably no more crucial time than right now.

[*We can't combat the COVID-19 pandemic without public health investment*](#) is an opinion piece on *The Hill* by Dr. Linda P. Fried about how the entire public health infrastructure in this nation is a shadow of its former self, lacking the infrastructure or the resources to coordinate a national response to this pandemic effectively.

[*Utah Medicaid will now cover COVID-19 testing for uninsured residents*](#) is a post on *State of Reform* by Kolbi Young about how Utah Medicaid is now covering COVID-19-related diagnostic testing and services for uninsured individuals for the duration of the public health emergency.



[*Average cost of hospital visit went up 36% over decade, data shows*](#) is a story by Scripps National for *The Denver Channel* of new concerns about medical costs because of the coronavirus.

[*Handgun Ownership and Suicide in California*](#) is a *NEJM special* article by Dr. David M. Studdert and colleagues about a study that shows handgun ownership is associated with a greatly elevated and enduring risk of suicide by firearm.

[*Factors Influencing Physician Practices' Adoption of Behavioral Health Integration in the United States*](#) is an article in *Annals of Internal Medicine* by Angèle Malâtre-Lansc and colleagues about their qualitative study in which the authors describe factors influencing 30 physician practices' implementation of behavioral health integration.

[*#8cantwait: Take Action Right Now*](#) is a movement by Campaign Zero that

provides data, which proves that together eight use-of-force policies can decrease police killings by 72%.

[*Psychological Distress and Loneliness Reported by U.S. Adults in 2018 and April 2020*](#) is a research letter on *JAMA Network* by Emma E. McGinty and colleagues who fielded a national survey measuring symptoms of psychological distress and loneliness among U.S. adults in April 2020 and compared results with national data from 2018.

[*Impact of COVID-19 shutdown – and now police brutality – may cause increase in ‘deaths of despair’*](#) is a story in *The Philadelphia Inquirer* by Bethany Ao and Aubrey Whelan who report on various studies and reports about how people are experiencing higher rates of anxiety, depression and hazardous and harmful alcohol use due to coronavirus-related stress. And that researchers predict that additional deaths of despair in the next decade could range from just under 28,000 to more than 154,000, depending on the speed of economic recovery.

[*Health Disparities are a Symptom of Broader Social and Economic Inequities*](#) is a post on the *Kaiser Family Foundation* site by Samantha Artiga about how the pandemic and the killing of George Floyd and other African Americans at the hands of police have laid bare stark structural and systemic racial inequities and their impacts on the health and well-being of individuals and communities that provide a catalyst for challenging work required to address them.

[*Don’t use ‘deaths of despair’ as rationale for reopening the country too soon*](#) is an opinion piece on *STAT News* by Megan L. Ranney and Jessica Gold about how U.S. House of Representative members ‘raised the specter’ of a rise in “deaths of despair” due to COVID-19 shutdowns implying that the country had a moral obligation to reopen quickly. The authors, frontline responders, say that tying deaths of despair directly to measures being used to reduce the spread of COVID-19 is, simply, wrong.



[*Return Immigrant Kids to their Parents: Their health depends on it*](#) is a commentary from a couple of years ago on *Law.com* by Yael Cannon, a law professor who collaborates with doctors. He wrote about how he has seen firsthand how laws and policies can impact the life trajectory of a child.

[*Why Some Doctor’s Offices Double as Legal Clinics*](#) is an article on *Slate* by Rebecca Gale about how pregnant women have rights but enforcing them takes resources.



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