



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

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

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NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

[*Speak Your Mind*](#) and sign the global voice petition calling for mental health action for all. Let's normalize the conversation around mental health.

[*United States of Care Partners with HLTH for the Largest Innovative Conference on Health Care*](#) is an announcement about an innovative conference sponsored by the United States of Care and HLTH (pronounced health), an entity that brings together health leaders to solve the most pressing problems facing health care today and actualize the most promising opportunities to improve health. The conference will be October 27-30, 2019 in Las Vegas. Andy Slavitt will deliver the keynote and our friend, Ben Miller, will be one of several featured panelists on the policy track.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

Peer Assistance Services, an organization that provides accessible substance use and mental health prevention and intervention in the community has made a host of resources and tools available on its website. [Click here to review and access these tools.](#)

[*Free to check in, but not to leave*](#) is a story in the *Seattle Times* by Daniel Gilbert about how patients seeking mental health treatment in Washington have been held against their will or threatened with involuntary commitment.

[*How We Interfere with Our Own Mental Health Care*](#) is a story in *Psychology Today* by Dr. Robert C. Smith about how stigma is a major deterrent to mental health care.



POLICY EFFORTS

[*Healing and Belonging in America*](#) is Mayor Pete's plan to improve mental health care and combat addiction...encouragement for us all that the national policy dialogue has embraced mental health in deeper ways than ever before.

[*Buttigieg unveils an aggressive plan for lowering drug prices*](#) is a story on *STAT* by Nicholas Florko who reports on Mayor Pete's ideas that include: a policy change that would force pharmaceutical manufacturers to forfeit as much as 95% of a drug's revenue if the company refuses to negotiate prices. And the worst offender could also forfeit their patent rights.

[*Colorado just released details for its public health insurance option. Here's how it would work.*](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by John Ingold who reported on the plan released by Colorado officials Monday that involves restricting what hospitals can charge and will require both hospitals and insurance companies to participate.

[*In a plan to set hospital prices, Colorado could see the mother of all health care battles*](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by John Ingold about how state leaders are coy about how they would compel hospitals to participate in the newly proposed public health insurance option.

[*Looking Inside Tennessee's Block Grant Proposal*](#) is a posting on the *Health Affairs Blog* by Sara Rosenbaum and Alexander Somodevilla about a new experimental phase that the state of Tennessee proposed to add to its Medicaid program, intended to test the effects of aggregate federal Medicaid spending limits (block grant) on more than one million Medicaid beneficiaries.



RESEARCH, DATA, EVALUATION

[*Half of millennials and 75% of Gen-Zers have quit jobs for mental health reasons*](#) is a story by Cory Stieg for CNBC about a recent survey examined the effects that mental health issues can have on employees.

[*Benefits for Mind, Body and Work Ability Seen in Medicaid Expansion*](#) is an article on the University of Michigan Health site by Kara Gavin about study findings that suggest that expanding Medicaid to more low-income adults helped many of them feel healthier and do a better job at work or a job search, just one year after they got their new health coverage.

[*Measuring and improving the quality of mental health care: A global perspective*](#) is an article in *World Psychiatry* by Amy M. Kilbourne and colleagues who present a framework for promoting quality measurement as a

tool for improving quality of mental health care.

[*Mental Illness Will Cost the World \\$16 USD Trillion by 2030*](#) is an article from the Carter Center published last year in *Psychiatric Times* about a Lancet Commission report on mental health that said mental disorders are on the rise in every country in the world and will cost the global economy \$16 trillion by 2030...due primarily to early onset of mental illness and lost productivity.

[*Long-term effects of rent supplements and mental health support services on housing and health outcomes of homeless adults with mental illness: extension study of the At Home/Chez Soi randomized controlled trial*](#) is an article in *The Lancet* by Dr. Vicky Stergiopoulos and colleagues that discusses how rent supplements and mental health support services had an enduring positive effect on housing stability for homeless adults with mental illness in a large, resource-rich urban centre, with a larger impact on individuals with high support needs than moderate support needs.

[*Eliminating Wasteful Health Care Spending – Is the United States Simply Spinning Its Wheels?*](#) is an opinion piece on *JAMA Network* by Dr. Jose F. Figueroa and colleagues who suggest that the United States has spent too little time tackling the bigger drivers of wasteful spending...pricing failures an administrative complexity. Policy maker action involves considerable policy intervention from federal and state governments, Also strategies should focus on streamlining processes between clinicians and payers, standardizing quality measures and reporting for value-based contracts, and reducing the complexity of prior authorizations.

[*Op-Ed: Humana study reveals \\$265 billion wasted on health care each year in the United States*](#) is an opinion piece by Bruce D. Broussard, president and CEO of Humana for CNBC who reports on a ground-breaking study by Humana that revealed that \$1 of every \$4 spent annually is being wasted; says a new value-based model needs to be adopted in the industry; and that the model must be an integrated approach that includes behavioral, pharmacy, social determinants of health, home health and primary care.



[*AG Healey Awards \\$3 Million in Grant to Support Innovative Health Care Partnerships*](#) is a press release from the beginning of the year about Massachusetts' attorney general, Maura Healey, awarding funds to promote health equity and reduce health disparities in underserved communities by investing in social determinants.

[*DULCE Legal Partners Drive Improvements in Medi-Cal Enrollment Procedures for Babies in Two California Counties*](#) is a posting on the Center for the Study of Social Policy website by Samantha Morton about how integrating a legal partner as a member of the health team can help children and families get the comprehensive services for which they qualify.



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