



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

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

ISSUE 120619



NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

“Guns, Opioids and Obesity: A Population Health Science Lens on Three Contemporary Epidemics” will be the Levitt presentation delivered by Dr. Sandro Galea (see his article below) January 22, 2020, noon to 1:30PM on the Anschutz Medical Campus, Ed 2 Building S, #1102. To RSVP, contact [Linda Niebauer](#).



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[*How an obese town lost a million pounds*](#) is a 15-minute *TedMed Talk* by Mayor Mick Cornett who discusses the “interlocking changes” that helped Oklahoma City, among the most obese towns in America, drop a collective million pounds.

[*Teach girls bravery, not perfection*](#) is a *TedTalk* by Reshma Saujani who says we’re raising our girls to be perfect and our boys to be brave. She strives to socialize young girls to take risks and learn to program...two skills she believes are needed to move society forward.

[*The Basic Criterion of Public Health*](#) is an article by Dr. Sandro Galea for *Millbank Quarterly* in which he revisits Edgar Sydenstricker’s paper, “The Changing Concept of Public Health” that emphasizes preventing poor health outcomes by bolstering economic security, safe and equitable housing conditions, and access to nutritious food and exercise remains as salient as ever...84 years later.

[*There’s a reason companies are afraid to talk about men’s mental health*](#) is a

story on *Quartz at Work* by Andy Katz-Mayfield about the social stigma that mires the conversation around men's mental health and yet men commit suicide at a rate that's 3.5 times higher than women.

[*Mental Health Care Dominates Growing Missouri Telemedicine Field*](#) is an NPR story about how in Missouri, patient visits using telephones or video conferencing systems have increased tenfold since 2010 among Missouri Medicaid users; and most were for behavioral or mental health services.



POLICY EFFORTS

[*The extraordinary danger of being pregnant and uninsured in Texas*](#) is a Vox story by Julia Belluz and Nina Martin about how Texas has the highest rate of uninsured women of reproductive age in the country; a third were without health coverage in 2018...and in some counties that estimate approaches 40%.

[*Blue Shield of California funds mental health workers in schools*](#) is a story in the *San Francisco Chronicle* by Catherine Ho who discusses a new \$10 million program for three school districts to pay for 19 mental health clinicians at area schools for the next five years.

[*Inmates with mental health illnesses get a chance at treatment*](#) is a story by WQAD in Iowa about how a diversion program that takes people at an Iowa jail with mental illnesses and puts them into treatment has saved taxpayers more than half a million dollars since its inception...not mention the positive benefits for individuals...including saving lives.

[*Program Will Help Divert Mentally Ill People from Jail*](#) is a story in *Westword* by Sara Fleming about a new pilot program administered by the Mental Health Center of Denver that aims to help move jailed people who are severely mentally ill into a competency restoration program quickly.



RESEARCH, DATA, EVALUATION

[*About 1 in 4 mental-health ER visits in Colorado are by children, new data shows*](#) is a story by Jessica Seaman for *The Denver Post* who reports on new data from the Center for Improving Value in Health Care, who believe that the frequency of ER visits reflects the lack of access to mental health providers and the high cost and stigma associated with receiving such care. [Another such story](#) was reported by Anusha Roy for *9News*.

[*Analysis: Choosing A Plan from the Impossible Health Care Maze*](#) is a *Kaiser Health News* story by Dr. Elisabeth Rosenthal who discusses the complexity of our health care system, driven mostly by profit, rather than by measures of health.

[*The Hidden Mental Health Costs of Climate Change*](#) is a story on *Vice* by Sean McDermott about a new report from the World Health Organization that warns that the climate crisis is already spreading disease, and could also trigger anxiety, depression, and PTSD.

[*Death or Debt? Cancer Patients are Presented with an Unimaginable Choice*](#) is a *Forbes* story by Clary Estes who talks about a study in the *American Journal of Medicine* that reported that among approximately 9.5 million newly diagnosed persons with cancer 50 years of age or older, 42.4% of them depleted their life assets two years following diagnosis...reflecting a question many Americans ask...how, in a prosperous country with some of the most advanced medical treatment available, has the cost of coverage become so financially untenable?

[*The Decline in Rural Medical Students: A Growing Gap in Geographic Diversity Threatens the Rural Physician Workforce*](#) is an article in *Health Affairs* by Scott A. Shipman (Farley Center Steering Committee member) and colleagues about the 15-year decline in the number of rural medical students, culminating in rural students' representing fewer than 5% of all incoming medical students in 2017.

[*Life Expectancy Study Jolts Assumptions Made about Life in America*](#) is an NPR interview that David Greene has with Dr. Steven Woolf, lead author of a study that finds U.S. life expectancy declining, and that we're not keeping pace with other wealthy countries.

[*Who and How: Exploring the Preferred Senders and Channels of Mental Health Information for Wisconsin Farmers*](#) is an article in *Int J Environ Res Public Health* by Josie M. Rudolphi and colleagues who report on farmers' preferred senders of mental health information and the preferred channels for receiving mental health information...useful for resource dispersion and future intervention.

[*Black Mothers Get Less Treatment for their Postpartum Depression*](#) is an NPR story by Nina Feldman and Aneri Pattani about how many in the black community don't know about postpartum depression, and that screening tools are not one size fits all.



MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIPS

[1 in 4 kids in West Philly suffers from asthma. And many common triggers lurk in their homes.](#) is a story in *The Inquirer* by Rita Giordano about a new campaign called CAPP+ sponsored by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the Philadelphia Housing Development Corp. that involved going into patient homes to remove asthma triggers. The pilot included 10 homes and next year they are committed to doing 100 homes.

[This overlooked aspect of opioid recovery has become a focus for health centers](#) is a story on *Think Progress* by Amanda Michelle Gomez about how medical legal partnerships can be an alternative to Trump's rigid law and order approach.



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