



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

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

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<https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/farleyhealthpolicycenter>



NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

[A Provider's Guide to Monoclonal Antibody Therapy for COVID-19](#) is a webinar being offered on three different days: August 24th, 12-1:30PM MT; August 25th 7-8:30AM MT; and August 30th 7-8:30AM MT sponsored by ECHO Colorado, mAb Colorado and CDPHE. This free session is designed especially for Colorado health care providers and administrators interested in mAb therapy for COVID patients in the ambulatory setting.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[Using American Rescue Plan Act Funding to Help Create a More Equitable, Healthier Future](#) is a blog post on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* site by Kara Odom Walker and Chris Koller who urge leaders to use these funds to improve population health broadly and to avoid using them for one-time investments that do not get us closer to a more equitable and healthier future.

[There's no shame in taking care of your mental health](#) is a 9-minute *Ted Talk* by Sangu Delle, entrepreneur and clean water activist, who addresses how he had to confront his own deep prejudice...that men shouldn't take care of their mental health.

[Campaign urges mental health support during pandemic](#) is a *Fox 11 News* story by Nicholas Harrington who writes about a new advocacy campaign in Wisconsin designed to urge people who are not feeling like themselves to seek help.

[How this teacher is tackling mental health as students return from year of](#)

[remote learning](#) is a story for *ABC News* by Katie Kindelan who writes about a teacher in Fremont, California who intends to focus on her students' mental health versus learning losses. She created a mental health check-in chart that went viral a couple of years ago.



POLICY EFFORTS

[Who Can Rein in Health Care Prices? State and Federal Efforts to Address Health Care Provider Consolidation](#) is an issue brief posted on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* by Katherine L. Gudiksen and colleagues that makes these policy points: 1) effective oversight of health care market conduct requires collaboration between state and federal policymakers, and 2) policymakers are starting to address the consequences of health care provider concentration through increased price transparency, improved merger review, oversight of anticompetitive conduct, and increased competition through a public option.

[Why It's Not Easy to Access Mental Health Care When You're Covered by Medicaid](#) is a post on the *Healthline* website by Brian Mastrolanni who discusses how mental health services were already challenging to access before the pandemic, and how now those resources have become even more limited.

[Trends and geographical variation in population thriving, struggling, and suffering across the USA, 2008-2017: a retrospective repeated cross-sectional study](#) is an article in *BMJ* by Carley Riley and colleagues who used the largest dataset on well-being in the United States to report on thriving, struggling, and suffering across the country from 2008 through 2017.

[From Policy Wonk to Concerned Parent](#) is this week's newsletter from Ben Miller who gives his thoughts on this back-to-school season, plus recommendations on what parents should be doing.

[In the U.S., a Health Care System Rich in Resources, Poor in Outcomes](#) is part of a series for *WFAE* by Dana Miller Ervin that examines the medical, business and cultural factors that contribute to the dichotomy embodied in the fact that the United States spends twice as much on medical care per person than other wealthy countries but has health outcomes that are remarkably poor.

[Inside America's COVID-reporting breakdown](#) is a post on *Politico* by Erin Banco who writes how state officials detail a vast failure to identify hotspots quickly enough to prevent outbreaks that include: crashing computers, three-week delays tracking infections, and lab results delivered by snail mail.

[Children's hospitals are swamped with COVID patients – and it may only get worse](#) is a story on *Politico* by Dan Goldberg and Alice Miranda Ollstein who cite that the CDC reported a new 7-day record and a 27% increase from the week before that showed nearly 1,600 kids with COVID-19 were hospitalized last week.

[A Feasible Infrastructure to Meet the Country's Current and Future Health](#)

[Crisis](#) is a post on the *Health Affairs Blog* by Deborah J. Cohen and Shannon M. Sweeney who propose a countrywide infrastructure that leverages trusted relationships to identify, track, and manage early and ongoing COVID-19 cases in diverse communities. Using this framework; public health systems, cooperative extension agents, and statewide networks would facilitate linkages among state medical and mental health organizations that could then enhance the primary care and public health infrastructure.



[Why COVID-19 Vaccines Don't Work as Well in Immunocompromised Cancer Patients](#) is a story on the CU Cancer Center site by Greg Glasgow about the news that the FDA approved a third vaccine dose for those with weakened immune systems due to chemotherapy and other factors.

[Alcohol-related liver disease surges since pandemic; young women seeing biggest increase in diagnoses](#) is a story covered by Ashley Michels for *Fox312News* that discusses a study published in *JAMA* that found a rise in patients needing and receiving liver transplants in February 2021 compared with June 2020 and attributes the increased numbers to acute alcohol-associated hepatitis.

[The COVID-19 Pandemic: Vaccine mandates and disturbing concerns about healthcare workers](#) is a recent commentary by Dr. Jon Samet, Dean of the Colorado School of Public Health, who reiterates the importance of vaccines; and the piece also features notes from the front lines of patient care by Dr. Marc Moss, head of the CU Division of Pulmonary Sciences and Critical Care Medicine.

[Mental health is the next big workplace issue](#) is an *AXIOS* story by Erica Pandey who calls attention to the fact that burnout and addiction are seeping into the 'workplace' and calls out worker shortages.

[Healthcare lobbying on upstream social determinants of health in the US](#) is an article in *Science Direct* by Nathaniel Z. Counts and colleagues who write about how lobbying has been a missed opportunity for addressing SDOH, and how healthcare organizations can expand their lobbying on upstream SDOH policy issues to increase the impact of their SDOH strategy and further improve population health.

[Most private insurers are no longer waiving cost-sharing for COVID-19 treatment](#) is an issue brief on the *Peterson-KFF Health System Tracker* by Jared Ortaliza and colleagues based on their analysis of findings from the KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey for 2021 conducted between January and July 2021, and included almost 1,700 randomly selected, non-federal public and private firms with three or more employees.

[Why mental health care in America is so shoddy](#) is a story on *Finance. Yahoo* by Adriana Belmonte who discusses findings from Mental Health America's latest annual report that includes a historical piece as well as a financial

argument.

[Mental health among healthcare workers and other vulnerable groups during the COVID-19 pandemic and other coronavirus outbreaks: A rapid systematic review](#) is an article in *Plos One* by Eleonora P. Uphoff and colleagues who conducted a review of 25 systematic reviews on adults and children residing in a country affected by a coronavirus outbreak and belonging to a group considered to be at risk of experiencing mental health inequalities.



[Optimizing Medical-Legal Partnerships in Pediatric Psychology to Reduce Health Disparities](#) is an article in the *Journal of Pediatric Psychology* by Dr. Rebecca Kamody and colleagues who provide a topical review of the literature on the use of MLPs to address social determinants of health needs as a means to reduce health disparities.



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