



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

[Reassessing Evidence: What Is Needed for Real World Research and Practice](#)

is a conference June 5, 6 sponsored by Colorado Pragmatic Research in Health (in person and online) at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Attendees can expect to learn about the evidence spectrum, reporting the quality of evidence, and understanding when evidence is ready to put into practice.

[Centura Health, one of Colorado's largest hospital systems, announces its breakup](#)

is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by John Ingold about how the partnership between CommonSpirit Health (Catholic-affiliated) and AdventHealth (affiliated with the Seventh-day Adventist Church) "has reached its natural maturity" and will be splitting.

[First National Primary Care Scorecard: What It Reveals and What Comes Next](#)

is a webinar February 22nd, noon MT, sponsored by the Milbank Memorial Fund and the Physicians Foundation during which a virtual release will be made of the first national scorecard on the health of U.S. primary care. It contains a measurement tool to track the implementation of high-quality primary care nationwide.

[Two years and growing strong](#) is this week's newsletter from Ben Miller in which he reflects on past messages and conversations with readers two years into writing this weekly mental health letter.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[Achieving Whole Health: A New Approach for Veterans and the National](#)

(2023) is the consensus study report (prepublication copy) released today from the National Academy of Science and edited by Drs. Alex H. Krist, Jeannette South-Paul and Marc Meisner. Recognizing the breadth of veteran needs, VHA has developed a novel Whole Health System (WHS) to redefine what health means and how we help people achieve health and improve overall well-being.

[Meth contamination at Colorado libraries puts spotlight on ‘the silent epidemic’](#) is a story on *Denver 7* by Brandon Richard about the many challenges beyond addiction itself that meth users face, not the least of which there is no FDA-approved medication to treat meth addiction.

[Public Health Agencies Turn to Locals to Extend Reach Into Immigrant Communities](#) is a post on *Kaiser Health News* by Markian Hawryluk about how the microgrant approach could be the future of public health messaging for diverse populations and a way to combat the erosion of trust that came with the pandemic’s politicization of public health.

[COVID-19 & More: Should we worry about bird flu, a book report, and other topics](#) is this week’s commentary from Dean Jon Samet.

[A rural Colorado hospital was down to its last dollar. This is how it came back.](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by John Ingold about how a small town hospital rebounds financially, as many other small town hospitals across the state struggle.

[How Do You Serve a Friend in Despair?](#) is an opinion piece in *The New York Times* by David Brooks who learned some hard lessons when his oldest friend (a physician) plunged into depression and then died by suicide.



[Facilitating a Needed a Paradigm Shift in the U.S. Health Care System: An Open Invitation for an Exchange of Ideas](#) is a commentary by Drs. Mark Gritz and Larry Green published on the Eugene S. Farley, Jr. Health Policy Center website as part of the “On Our Minds” section , inspired by Dr. Don Berwick’s [recent article](#) in JAMA about the current state and future of our health care system.

[Colorado cities could allow “overdose prevention centers” for drug users under new Democratic bill](#) is a post in *The Colorado Sun* by Jesse Paul about House Bill 1202, part of a year-long fiery debate around “so-called safe-use sites.” Gov. Polis is a key skeptic.

[Opinion: Psychologists are not qualified to prescribe medication](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Dr. Patricia Westmoreland who writes that “psychologists are highly educated, but not in medicines and the human body.” She states that a proposed law allowing them to prescribe drugs should be defeated.

[Opinion: The COVID ‘emergency’ is ending. Here’s who will be hurt most.](#) is a

commentary in the *LA Times* by Wendy Netter Epstein and Daniel Goldberg (a Farley Center affiliated faculty member) that calls out how the end of the public health emergency brings about the end of many of the protections for vulnerable communities.

[Protecting Contraceptive Coverage Under the Affordable Care Act: The Biden Administration Tries Again](#) is an opinion piece in *The Milbank Quarterly* by Sara Rosenbaum in which she discusses the history of contraceptive coverage and describes the proposed regulation.



[Paxlovid effective against omicron variant, new research says](#) is a post on *McKnights* by John Roszkowski about a study done by CU School of Medicine researchers showing that Paxlovid remains a very effective treatment against the COVID-19 omicron variants.

[Pregnant people with substance use disorders need treatment, not criminalization](#) is an opinion piece on *STAT* by Nora D. Volkow who cites various research findings including a 2022 analysis that found women living in states with punitive policies for substance use in pregnancy had a lower likelihood of receiving timely or quality care, both before and after pregnancy.

[Almost half of children who go to ER with mental health crisis don't get the follow-up care they need, study finds](#) is a post on *CNN Health* by Jen Christensen about study findings that showed fewer than a third of the children (n=28,000) aged 6 to 17 years had the benefit of an outpatient mental health visit within seven days of being discharged from the ER.



[Center on Reproductive Health, Law, and Policy](#) is a new innovative center engaging with community organizations, scholars, lawmakers, practitioners, and advocates on reproductive health, law, and policy.

[Fact Sheet: In State of the Union, President Biden to Outline Vision to Advance Progress on Unity Agenda in Year Ahead](#) is a post on the *White House* site that outlines Biden's vision to advance progress on Unity Agenda.

[Learning Collaborative Using Legal Services as Part of a Community Strategy to Improve Maternal Health in Health Centers](#) sponsored by the National Center for Medical Legal Partnership is a series of structured discussions taking place from 11AM-12:30PM MT March 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd. Registration application is due 2/22.



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