



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

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

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Editor: Linda Niebauer

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



NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

[Adolescent Reproductive Health in Primary Care](#) is a new ECHO series being provided primary care clinicians April 14-May 19, Thursdays 7-8AM MT.

[The Lost Art of Dying: Reviving Forgotten Wisdom](#) will be presented March 7th, 12-1PM MT, by Dr. Lydia Dugdale, author of the book and sponsored by the CU Arts in Medicine program.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[Inherited Patients Taking Opioids for Chronic Pain – Considerations for Primary Care](#) is an opinion piece in *The New England Journal of Medicine* by Drs. Phillip O. Coffin and Antje M. Barreveld about how reflexive and one-size-fits-all approaches to tapering or discontinuing opioids prescribed for chronic pain should be avoided.

[Vaccine Hesitancy Is an Old Problem in Need of New Ideas](#) is a post on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* site by Sarah Reber and Cyrus Kosar who discuss how vaccine hesitancy is not a COVID-specific phenomenon and is not unique to Republicans or vocal anti-vaxxers. The authors suggest we must invest much more in research on vaccine hesitancy to identify strategies that work to reduce hesitancy and improve messaging.

[The COVID-19 Pandemic: Colorado's epidemic curve continues downward, and mask mandates drop away](#) is this week's commentary from Dr. Jon Samet who asks: "what calculus leads to disruptions that harm commerce and people, and are directed at measures intended to protect all of us?"

[The nearly 2,000 Afghan refugees who recently arrived in Colorado have found a community ready to help](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Thy Vo who writes how Afghan Americans, many who came to the United States as refugees decades ago, are organizing to help support new arrivals.

[Palliative Care Director: It's Not About Death. It's About Life](#) is a story on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus site by Kiley Kudma who interviewed Dr. Amos Bailey, director of the Master of Science in Palliative Care and Interprofessional Palliative Care Certificate Programs, who defined the field and how it meets the needs of today's changing death process.

[Opinion: Adults who accept the suffering of others damage the emotional health of children](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Laurie Spencer Roberts who writes how there's no better therapy for kids than seeing adults work together to help others.

[Keeping It Together: I wanted to Understand my newest online obsession](#) is a story in *USA Today* by Sara M. Moniuszko who talks with Ben Miller about our latest obsession, WORDLE, which highlights how much we enjoy connecting with each other.



[The Need to Prioritize Patient-Centered Care in Inpatient Psychiatry as a Matter of Social Justice](#) is an opinion piece on *JAMA Network* by Drs. Morgan C. Shields and Rinad S. Beidas who write how the time is now to reckon with the injustice and harm produced within settings intended to heal. They say that patient-centered care should be measured and prioritized as an outcome by payers and regulators through aligned incentives, supports, and standards to motivate facilities and support staff in implementing evidence-based care environments.

[Guns to garden tools: Colorado group seeks change, healing](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* about how RAWtools has disabled more than 1,000 firearms across the country since its inception in 2013, shortly after a gunman killed 20 first-graders and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary Hook.

[We need a public health approach to loneliness](#) is an editorial in *The BMJ* by Roger O'Sullivan and colleagues who indicate that loneliness is costly to individuals and society and should be a political priority.

[Colorado mental health professionals incensed after Medicaid forum that was intended to clear the air](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Jennifer Brown who writes how approximately 160 mental health therapists, counselors and psychologists joined a forum to vent about Medicaid payment delays and burdensome paperwork, and how they left even angrier.

[The U.S. Senate Committee on Finance Is Moving Forward with Mental Health Reform](#) is a story on *Very Well Mind* by Sarah Fielding who reports on

upcoming work by the US Senate Finance Committee that includes the review of necessary mental health changes needed nationwide and consideration of areas such as strengthening the workforce and furthering the use of telehealth.

[Protecting Youth Mental Health: Part II – Identifying and Addressing Barriers to Care](#) is a recorded Senate Hearing from earlier this week.

[As state medical boards try to stamp out COVID misinformation, some in GOP push back](#) is an NPR story by Blake Farmer in which Republican politicians threatened to disband the medical board for their adoption of a statement that said doctors spreading misinformation could jeopardize their license to practice medicine.



[Disaggregating Asian American and Pacific Islander Health Data: Opportunities to Advance Health Equity](#) is a blog post on *Milbank Memorial Fund* by Kevin H. Nguyen who writes about how AAPI people are a diverse group consisting of more than 50 ethnicities and 100-plus languages yet their health data are often aggregated as one race and treated as a monolith; and how this grouping masks wide variation in access to care, health status, and health outcomes for different subgroups.

[Making progress on mental illness](#) is an article in *Science* by Ben Miller who reviews Thomas Insel's book, "Healing: Our Path from Mental Illness to Mental Health" in which Insel looks back at the evolution of our understanding of mental illness and forward to the next chapter in this story.

[U.S. schools failing in fight against youth mental health crisis, new report card finds](#) is a *USA Today* story by Alia Wong about a first of its kind report card released this week, which found that all 50 states are struggling to empower schools amid the country's worsening crisis.

[Consensus grows that the pandemic has taken a big emotional toll on young people](#) is an NPR story by Rachel Martin and Rhitu Chatterjee that reports on findings from a poll that indicate that nearly 90% of Americans are concerned about the mental health of youth.



[HealthLaw Advocates: Lawyers Fighting for Health Care Justice](#) is a newsletter from a group in Boston with all kinds of great stuff...check it out, especially the article about diverting kids from juvenile justice into the mental health system.

[Best Practices in Screening and Data Collection for MLPS Serving Immigrant](#)

[Populations](#) is part of a toolkit webinar March 3rd, 2PM MT.



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