



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

[Dr. Stephen Berman, prominent Colorado doctor and advocate for children's health, dies at 76](#) is a *CPR News* story by John Daley about the passing of a long-term colleague and one of the giants of Children's Hospital Colorado who had a tremendous impact on child health and advocacy during his career.

[On Medicine as Colonialism](#) is a new book from Dr. Michael Fine in which he uses the COVID-19 pandemic and other examples to demonstrate the costly failure of the American health care system.

[Filling the Gaps in the Behavioral Health Workforce](#) is a virtual event January 24<sup>th</sup> at 10AM MT sponsored by the Bipartisan Policy Center in which recommendations will be made for federal policy solutions to bolster the role of nonclinical behavioral health workers.

[Embracing disruption](#) is the title of this week's newsletter from Ben Miller about how "sometimes change is messy."



## COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[The top items on 5 chief medical officers' to-do lists](#) is a story on *Becker's Hospital Review* site by Bari Faye Dean that reports the responses of five chief medical officers around the country to the ask: name the top items on their to do lists.

[What role should parents play in schools? Five Colorado districts are teaming up to include them.](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Erica Bruenlin about how

COVID has illuminated the fact that schools, families, and communities must work together in a different way to be able to improve outcomes.

[Social Isolation and Loneliness as Medical Issues](#) is a perspective piece in *The New England Journal of Medicine* by Drs. Julianne Holt-Lunstand and Carla Perissinotto that discusses how until the pandemic a patient's level of social connection was largely treated as a personal issue. Since, governments, institutions, and medical systems have been forced to reckon with the potential

[Workplace Toxicity Is Not Just Mental Health Issue](#) is a story on *MIT Sloan Management Review* by Deepa Purushothaman and Valerie Rein about how women of color are getting physically sick from work and how manager can disrupt this "tox-sick" pattern.

[Mental Health Apps Won't Get You Off the Couch](#) is a story on *WIRED* by its spiritual advice columnist on whether digital tools can solve a health crisis they helped create.



[Assault weapon sales now illegal in Illinois: 'This will save lives,' Pritzker says after signing bill into law](#) is a story in the *Chicago Sun Times* by Tina Sfondeles about how Gov. J. B. Pritzker signed into law the ban of the sale of military-style weapons and high-capacity magazines.

[Saving Money or Improving Health? Reconsidering Payment Reform](#) is an opinion piece in *The Milbank Quarterly* by Kushal T. Kadakia and Zirui Song that states how payment reform is not a goal unto itself, but rather a means to move the delivery system toward higher value. The authors suggest that by reorienting the design and interpretation of payment models toward health over savings, policymakers can reaffirm what is the true bottom line: population health.

[Colorado is in a mental health crisis. Psychologists want to help by being allowed to prescribe medication.](#) is a post in *The Colorado Sun* by Jennifer Brown in which psychologists and other supporters of legislation introduced this week suggest that the passing of such could be a step toward increasing access to care at a time when Colorado is desperate for mental health professionals.

[Colorado's expanded preschool program received 12,000 applications on its first day – more than officials expected](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Erica Breunlin about a promising sign for the new program, prompting the Colorado Department of Early Childhood officials to rethink enrollment.

[Democrats in Colorado's legislature want a ban on so-called assault weapons. Jaret Polis doesn't appear to be on board.](#) Is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Jesse Paul of a bill about to be introduced in the coming days or weeks that would define what constitutes an assault weapon and the penalties for procuring or possessing one.

[Colorado Option sign-up numbers are in. But the debate over the Jared Polis – backed insurance plan is far from over.](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by John Ingold who reports that approximately 35,000 people signed up for the Colorado Option health insurance plans during the most recent open

[The Coming Collapse of the U.S. Health Care System](#) is a story on *TIME* by Drs. Robert Glatter and Peter Papadaros about how the massive financial drain imposed by staff shortages and use of locums has led to many healthcare facilities reaching the point of financial instability.



[Assessment of Population-Level Disadvantage Indices to Inform Equitable Health Policy](#) is an article in *The Milbank Quarterly* by Kamaria Kaalund and colleagues that discusses the rapid uptake of disadvantage indices that can influence health outcomes and unintended consequences of indiscriminately using these tools.

[Conceptualizing and Measuring Abatement from the Opioid Epidemic: A Case Study from Pennsylvania](#) is an article in *The Milbank Quarterly* by Danielle Rhubart and colleagues that outlines the political economy tensions undergirding the pharmaceutical settlement and allocation and introduce a framework for how an abatement formula was developed for PA to allocate those funds.



[Partnership Expanded to Help with Legal Issues that Impact Health](#) is a news release posted on *Building Indiana* about plans to expand the Eskanazi Health MLP via a new partnership with Taft Stettinius & Hollister to improve health outcomes.

[Screening and referral for social determinants of health: Maternity patient and health care team perspectives](#) is an article posted on the *UCSF Siren Network* website by KP Tully and colleagues about a study that aimed to identify patient and health care team perspectives on screening and referral for social determinants of health in maternity care.

[Health Systems Strategies to Ensure a Focus on Children with Health Complexity](#) is an issue brief on the *Lucile Packard Foundation* website by Colleen Reuland and colleagues that applies health complexity, a concept that considers both a child's medical and social complexity, to address health disparities.

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