



# FRIDAY'S FEATURES

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Editor: [Linda Niebauer](#)



[An American president](#) is this week's letter from Ben Miller about how the executive branch has chosen to address mental health over the years.

[To learn what's coming up in ECHO Colorado seminars, click here.](#)

[Characteristics of Success & Failure Under Value-based Alternative Payment](#) is the June 19 Levitt Distinguished Speaker presentation by Tony Rodgers, experienced healthcare executive from both the public and private sectors sponsored by the CU Department of Family Medicine. The presentation will cover different value-based payment models in healthcare, including their goals, underlying economic incentive implementation and financial capital requirements, and impact on patient care and population health.

[ABMS Advisory Body on Specialty Board Development Invites Third-Party Comments](#) as it endorses the value of obtaining input from a wide range of stakeholders. As a part of this evaluation process, the advisory body will accept written third-party comments to inform deliberation and review via an online submission form. Anonymous comments will not be accepted. Online comment period ends July 24, 2024.



[Shortages of popular weight loss drugs prompt warnings not to use compounded versions of Ozempic, Wegovy, Mounjaro and Zepbound](#) is a post on *UCHealth Today* by Katie Kerwin McCrimmon about how people are struggling to get additional doses of weight loss medications and what happens if you suddenly stop taking drugs like Wegovy and Zepbound and are there any safe alternatives?

[A Vote for Health](#) is an opinion piece by Dr. Sandro Galea of the Boston University School of Public Health in *The Milbank Quarterly* about considerations for population health professionals to guide their engagement with politics, including the role that declining population health can play in generating support for populist candidates.

[Malicious Midwives, Fruitful Vines, and Bearded Women – Sex, Gender, and Medical Expertise in the Journal](#) is a perspective piece by Ben Maldonado and colleagues in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, part of an invited series by independent historians, focused on biases and injustice that the journal has helped perpetuate over the years. This is an attempt to help us learn from mistakes. This discussion is intended to illustrate the ways in which the journal circulated sexist ideas as it generated authoritative medical discourse about innate sex differences.

[Medical Schools Around the World Are Expanding their 'Climate Change Curriculums'](#) is a post on *Inside Climate News* by Kiley Price about how medical schools are pushing their schools to teach more about the health impact of climate change.



[Denver Health has a funding crisis. Is a new sales tax the answer?](#) is a post in the *Denverite* by Rebecca Tauber about how the number of uninsured patients continues to rise, Medicaid and Medicare reimbursements fail to cover expenses, and the cost of health care is increasing. Given those facts, the City Council and Denver Health leadership propose raising Denver's sales tax to help fund the hospital system.

[We are asking Coloradans what they want candidates to focus on this election. Thousands have answered.](#) is an article in *The Colorado Sun* by Tina Griego and Megan Verlee about how survey respondents indicated they are frustrated by polarization and attach politics and that candidates must focus on democracy and good government, the economy and cost of living, the environment, climate and natural resources, immigration and abortion.

[Colorado's growing approach to solving chronic homelessness: Permanent housing with few rules.](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Jennifer Brown about how Jefferson Center and WellPower of Denver are building permanent supportive housing complexes modeled after a 2017 Denver building that still has a waitlist.

[A major psychiatric hospital in Grand Junction will stay open – at least for now](#)

is a post in *The Colorado Sun* by Tatiana Flowers about how West Springs Hospital leaders feared, in mid-April, they would have to close their doors, citing financial problems, intense scrutiny from regulatory agencies and staffing concerns. The facility will remain open for now as Mind Springs signed a new contract with Rocky Mountain Health Plans to help resolve its financial problems over the next year.

[Reengineering Addiction – The Tobacco Industry’s Potential Response to a Nicotine Standard for Cigarettes](#) is a perspective piece by Dr. Ahmed El-Hellani and colleagues in *The New England Journal of Medicine* about how the FDA is considering implementing a nicotine product standard under which cigarettes could contain only exceptionally low levels of nicotine.



[Harmonizing the Tripartite Mission in Academic Family Medicine: A Longitudinal Case Example](#) is an article in the *Annals of Family Medicine* by Dr. CJ Peek and colleagues about how this siloed approach has interfered with innovation. The authors provide a case example of harmonizing academic missions in a large family medicine department so that missions and people interact in mutually beneficial ways to create value for patients, learners, and faculty.

[Colorado State University students and UCHealth put kids’ safety on the scale](#) is a UCHealth story by Tyler Smith. During 911 calls, medication doses for infants and children need to be precise, and a new invention makes that easier.

[Gun-related injuries cost at least \\$8.4 million in medical bills in Colorado in 2022](#) is a new analysis by the Center for Improving Value in Health Care, a first of its kind, to examine some of the economic impacts of firearm injuries and keeping with a growing effort in Colorado to think of gun-related harms as a health issue and to study them in the same way researchers might look at other public health challenges.



[AMA Urges Funding to Expand MLPs Across the U.S. to Address the Maternal Health Crisis](#) is a story on the *National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership* website about how the AMA continues to address this crisis, advocating for enhanced MLPs in their 2024 recommendations to tackle

social determinants of health among pregnant and postpartum individuals.

[New MLP Training Resources from the Kaiser Permanente Health, Housing, and Justice Initiative](#) is a post on the *National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership* website about how Kaiser has opened five MLPs in different Kaiser markets over the last two years. Through this experience, partners created a suite of training materials that can be adapted and used by MLPs across the country and across different healthcare settings.

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