



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>



Our very own Frank deGruy is [one of six faculty members named CU Distinguished Professor](#). This title recognizes outstanding contributions in research, education and service, and is the highest honor awarded to faculty across the CU system's four campuses. Recipients demonstrate exemplary performance in research and/or creative work, a record of excellence in promoting learning and student attainment of knowledge and skills, and outstanding service to the profession, the university and its affiliates. Congratulations, Frank...an honor well-deserved.

[The struggle is real](#) is this week's newsletter from Ben Miller about how ongoing efforts at payment and delivery reform continue to fall short for mental health.



[Navigating Medicare open enrollment? These expert tips can help.](#) is a post in *The Colorado Sun* by John Ingold in which three experts offer advice on how to pick the best plan(s).

[What not to take home from this year's holiday gathering? COVID-19. Here's the best way to steer clear of it this holiday season.](#) is a *CPR News* story by John Daley with advice about taking common sense precautions especially as it relates to vulnerable populations given that Colorado hospitalizations are at their highest for this problem since the start of 2023.

[U.S. childhood vaccination exemptions reach their highest level ever](#) is an *AP News* story by Mike Stobbe about how more parents are questioning

routine childhood vaccinations that they used to automatically accept.



[HHS Is Taking Action to Strengthen Primary Care](#) is an issue brief dated 11/7/23 about how the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is collaborating across divisions to develop a coordinated set of actions to strengthen primary care in our nation and has moved forward with implementing these actions.

[Leaders Share Perspectives on How to Guide Change](#) is an article in *Neurology Today* by Thomas R. Collins about how health care leaders, including Dr. Kavita Nair, professor of clinical pharmacy and neurology at the University of Colorado, shared ideas for spearheading change in a session at the annual American Academy of Neurology meeting last month.

[Introducing Health Equity Analysis into State Review of Most Proposed Health Facility Changes](#) is a blog post on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* by Lois Uttley about how a proposed New York birth center closure provides a first test of required health equity assessment based on a new law.

[New Colorado laws protecting gender-affirming care should set example for other states](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Kevin McFatridge about how Colorado's recent legislation to protect gender-affirming care is a testament to the state's commitment to the well-being of its transgender residents. This approach recognizes that the care needed is not only a matter of compassion but also one of medical necessity.

[Colorado disability rights advocates fight for accessibility. "We're the canaries in the coal mine of health care."](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Tatiana Flowers about how Coloradans with disabilities and advocacy organizations are working with the state Medicaid department to improve care.



[Can AI improve health care? Doctors at UHealth are trying to find out.](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by John Ingold about how UHealth is using artificial intelligence to prevent deaths from sepsis. But it turns out human

intelligence in using the tools is a lot more important.

[No Improvement in Mental Health Treatment or Patient-Reported Outcomes at Medicare ACOs for Depression and Anxiety Disorders](#) is an article in *Health Affairs* by Jason M. Hockenberry and colleagues about a longitudinal study that highlighted the need for better-designed incentives to motivate Medicare ACOs to improve mental health treatment.



[CrescentCare](#) is a federally qualified health center with a legal services team that provides legal aid to people living with HIV across the state of Louisiana to increase awareness and empower people to be advocates for themselves and to reach out for the legal assistance they may need.

[Healthy Start Initiative: Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health](#) is a new funding opportunity from HRSA designed to improve health outcomes before, during, and after pregnancy and reduce the well-documented racial/ethnic differences in rates of infant death and adverse perinatal outcomes.

[MLP in Action](#) is a webinar December 6, noon to 1PM MT, that will focus on supportive transition care for foster and former foster youth, and is sponsored by the National Center for Medical Legal Partnerships, School-based Health Alliance and National LGBTQIA+ Health Education Center.

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