



School of Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

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[Colorado patients and providers alike are frustrated, angry and worried as COVID cases pack hospitals across the state](#)

What's the big picture impact when hospitals are on that brink? UHealth ICU doctor **Abbey Lara** [associate professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] puts it simply — it means things like care gets delayed, patients face more waits or they don't get much-needed diagnostic tests. In the worst-case scenario, "patients who could have survived something, they had their life cut short because they weren't able to access care," she said.



The health system is complex, a meshwork of interacting pieces, said **Steve Cantrill**, a Denver Health emergency medicine physician [and visiting associate professor of clinical practice of emergency medicine at CU School of Medicine]. "So it's not a matter of the whole system, but you have little pieces that are breaking," he said. "And then the number of pieces that are breaking increases."



Denver Health's **Anuj Mehta** [assistant professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] said the new rules will help "so we can take care of the other patients in the hospital better and likely improve survival for everybody."

CPR News, Dec. 9, 2021



[Colorado scales back hospital bed surge plan as COVID-19 metrics improve](#)

Several providers who spoke to The Denver Gazette this week about the impacts of delayed care said the situation is unlike any they've seen, in terms of its length and severity. "Never in my life," said **Richard Zane** of UHealth. "I've been doing this (since) 1993."

Denver Gazette, Dec. 9, 2021



[“New Deadly Strains Coming:” Public Urged to Get Vaccinated](#)

“Omicron has many mutations that could allow it to spread better and be better at binding to and getting into our cells,” said **David Beckham**, a virologist and a specialist in infectious diseases at the University of Colorado Hospital [and associate professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine]. “So, concern and quick action by global health leaders is warranted.”

Solomon Times (Honiara, Solomon Islands), Dec. 15, 2021



[Alarm about COVID-19 in pregnant women in Colorado shared](#)

In those early days and weeks, in the absence of certainty, providers thought about COVID-19's impact on pregnant women in the context of other viral illnesses. Flu could be more severe for moms-to-be, said **Anne Euser**, a maternal-fetal medicine specialist at UCHHealth's University of Colorado Hospital, who also teaches at CU's School of Medicine.

Denver Gazette, Dec. 13, 2021



[Holidays 2021: 'Do What You Can Sustain and What Sustains You'](#)

“Here's my practical advice for this holiday season...try to match up the risk reduction practices that you can sustain with the activities that you feel are going to sustain you,” **Joshua Barocas**, associate professor of medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, said.

Medscape, Dec. 15, 2021

[Explainer: Is it safe for Americans to travel for the holidays?](#)

People should gather outdoors, wear masks and perform rapid tests before meeting unvaccinated family and friends and before returning to work, said **Joshua Barocas**, associate professor of medicine at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

Reuters, Dec. 16, 2021



['Tis the season for injuries](#)

Ben Usatch, an emergency medicine physician and medical director for UCHHealth Hospital Highlands Ranch [and assistant professor of emergency medicine at CU School of Medicine], said holiday injuries start early with the cold weather and continue with holiday decoration hanging through to Christmas, when presents are opened and can cause unexpected injuries.

Centennial Citizen, Dec. 10, 2021



[Monday Medical: Understanding chest pain in kids](#)

“Chest pain is a very different issue in adults versus kids,” said **Michael DiMaria**, [associate professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine and] a pediatric cardiologist with Children’s Hospital Colorado who cares for patients at UCHHealth Pediatric Heart and Vascular Clinic in Steamboat Springs.

Steamboat Pilot & Today, Dec. 12, 2021



[Colorado, providers urge uptake of routine pediatric vaccines after pandemic hobbled rates](#)

Edwin Asturias, an infectious disease specialist with Children’s Hospital Colorado [and CU School of Medicine], said the pediatric system had seen a significant jump in invasive pneumococcal cases — like pneumonia and meningitis. Last year, he said, there were roughly 40 such cases. This year, it’s up to 70.

Denver Gazette, Dec. 15, 2021



[Smartphone App Could Give Voice to Congestion in Heart Failure](#)

One potential limitation of this technology is that it requires the patient to engage the app and read the appropriate phrase to be useful, observe the editorialists, Neal Ravindra, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut, and **David Kao**, University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Medscape, Dec. 15, 2021



[How To Prevent Ear Infections In Kids](#)

“When you have fluid in a nice warm dark place, it’s like a petri dish,” adds **Patricia J. Yoon**, pediatric otolaryngologist at Children’s Hospital Colorado [and associate professor of otolaryngology at CU School of Medicine], explaining that when the eustachian tubes don’t allow fluid in the ear to drain properly, that’s where the infection sprouts. “Some children are more prone than others. There’s known to be a genetic susceptibility, and it tends to run in families.”

Romper, Dec. 16, 2021



[Addition of venetoclax to azacytidine improves outcomes for subset of patients with AML](#)

“We know that poor-risk cytogenetics are associated with worse outcomes in patients treated with conventional therapies. We also know that *TP53* mutations frequently co-occur with poor-risk cytogenetics...,” **Daniel A. Pollyea**, clinical director of leukemia services, associate professor of medicine and hematology and Robert H. Allen MD chair in hematology research at University of Colorado Anschutz Medical School, told Healio.

Healio, Dec. 13, 2021



[Archaeology: Highly decorated 10,000-year-old burial of an infant GIRL dubbed ‘Neve’ found in Italy](#)

‘The Mesolithic is particularly interesting,’ added paper author and paleoanthropologist **Caley Orr** of the University of Colorado School of Medicine. It occurred after the end of Europe’s last Ice Age. ‘So, it’s a really important time period for understanding human prehistory.’

In Entertainment, Dec. 14, 2021



[If we reach across the gun divide, we can prevent firearm suicides](#)

Guest column by **Emmy Betz**, an emergency physician and researcher at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and Rob Pincus, executive vice president of 2AO (Second Amendment Organization): “Although disagreements remain, the two of us now have a constructive relationship, effectively opening doors to reach new audiences, speak on panels and collaborate in preventing firearm suicide. As unlikely allies, we call on everyone to join the conversation and take action. We can save lives together.”

The Hill, Dec. 15, 2021



[University of Colorado Hospital taps new CEO](#)

Tom Gronow has been appointed president and CEO of University of Colorado Hospital on the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora. He has been serving as interim CEO since August, a news release from UCHHealth said.

Becker's Hospital Review, Dec. 14, 2021