**Anti-vaxxers may be exploiting widespread religious exemptions, research suggests**

Parents were more likely to claim religious exemptions for vaccines in states that didn’t permit personal belief exemptions, according to the research. That suggests a “replacement effect,” according to **Joshua Williams**, the study’s lead author and an assistant professor of pediatrics at CU. “When you give parents two options in a state, personal belief and religious exemption, a very small percent of parents are actually opting for religious exemptions if given an alternative.”

*CNN, Nov. 4, 2019*

**Religious vaccine exemptions rise in states that don’t allow personal belief exemptions, study finds**

“In our study, kindergartner religious exemption rates differed by personal exemption availability, being four times more likely in states with religious exemptions compared to states with both religious and personal belief exemptions,” said **Joshua T.B. Williams**, lead author of the study and a pediatrician with the Denver Health Medical Center.

*Philadelphia Inquirer, Nov. 5, 2019*

**Measles Infection Causes ‘Amnesia’ In The Immune System, Study Finds**

“So basically it’s a double whammy,” said **Marian Rewers**, a pediatric endocrinologist with the CU School of Medicine and a coauthor of the study. “If you don’t vaccinate your kid against measles, not only the kid may get infected -- and it’s not a pleasant or mild infection, it has a number of potential consequences in the brain and heart and other organs -- but also the infection lowers the immunity to all of the previous viruses and bacteria that this kid has been exposed to.”

*KUNC, Oct. 31, 2019*
Your Health: New chemical compound targets leukemia stem cells

Oncologist Dan Pollyea did have one option: an FDA approved clinical trial testing a low dose chemo combined with the pill venetoclax, a drug that targets leukemia stem cells. “We’ve never seen a drug work like this, to target any type of cancer cell, let alone a stem cell,” said Pollyea, Clinical director of Leukemia Services at the University of Colorado's Cancer Center at the Anschutz Medical Campus.

WQAD (Moline, Ill.), Nov. 1, 2019

Children’s Hospital Colorado uses telehealth to diagnose fetal heart disease

A recent study of 368 pregnant mothers, led by Bettina Cuneo, director of perinatal cardiology and fetal cardiac telemedicine at Children's Hospital Colorado [and professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine], found that fetal congenital heart disease was correctly identified and successfully managed according to evidence-based risk stratification.

Becker's Hospital Review, Oct. 31, 2019

Experts Urge Caution With Cannabis Edibles

“Actually, what we saw was a spike in emergency department visits,” says Andrew Monte, at UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital. “We had one report that tourists actually came to the state and they ended up in emergency departments.”

NBC 5 Chicago, Nov. 5, 2019

‘Reefer madness,’ indeed: Doctor tells House panel marijuana linked to psychosis

Andrew Monte of the CU School of Medicine discussed “adverse effects,” specifically adults and their visits to the ER because of marijuana overdoses and related complications. Monte, whose scholarly work includes studies of “toxicity” in edibles, described “lessons to be learned” from Colorado, which had an “amazing explosion” of dispensaries for “quote/unquote ‘medical purposes.’”

Florida Politics, Nov. 6, 2019
Baby Stares At The Ceiling A Lot? Experts Promise It’s Normal

Mary Kohn, a pediatrician with the University of Colorado Hospital [and associate professor of clinical practice of pediatrics for CU School of Medicine], tells Romper the age difference is really the thing to think about if you’re concerned. “Since babies are always developing and changing, what is normal for a newborn may be very concerning in an 18-month-old.”

Romper, Nov. 2, 2019

Spa-like experience helps lessen anxiety of annual mammograms

Not everyone agrees, imaging physicist [and associate professor of radiology] for University of Colorado [School of Medicine], Rebecca Marsh has stopped using the smart curve paddle. “The image quality didn’t look as good as it does with a standard paddle,” Marsh said.

Fox5 (New York), Oct. 30, 2019

Targeting stress before it starts

Lisa Brenner, a Rehabilitation Psychologist at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus said, “Currently what we really work with is after the fact.”

KSAT (San Antonio), Nov. 4, 2019

With Dementia Comes Tough Decisions, Including What To Do About Guns. A New Website Could Help.

“It’s not the person, it’s the disease,” said Emmy Betz, one of the researchers who created the website. Betz is an emergency room doctor and a public health researcher at the CU School of Medicine. “Someone could have been an expert racecar driver or a marksman or hunter their whole lives. But the disease can change people and make it so that they’re no longer safe to do the things they’ve always done.”

KUNC, Nov. 5, 2019
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<th><strong>Burnout is rampant among doctors and nurses. Can the arts help?</strong></th>
<th><strong>Best practices in managing asthma patients</strong></th>
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<td>At the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, where Marc Moss is now head of the division of pulmonary sciences and critical care medicine, he is heading a new federally funded research lab that will look at how different art therapies can alleviate psychological stress in health professionals. The university’s Colorado Resiliency Arts Lab, or CORAL, will test four programs in 2020 with the help of community partners.</td>
<td>“This is a very exciting time for asthma management and treatment,” says Fernando Holguin, director of the asthma program at University of Colorado’s pulmonary sciences and critical care division. Holguin is particularly enthusiastic about the field’s move toward personalized and precision medicine, where each patient’s individual needs can be assessed and treated.</td>
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<td><strong>PBS News Hour, Nov. 5, 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Medical Economics, Nov. 1, 2019</strong></td>
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<th><strong>Defibrillation testing losing ground as a safety check for ICDs</strong></th>
<th><strong>Does waist size predict dementia risk?</strong></th>
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<td>“The benefits of DFT (defibrillation testing) have not routinely been demonstrated,” Ryan T. Borne, of CU Anschutz Medical Campus, and colleagues wrote in <em>JAMA Network Open</em>. “Several studies published between 2008 and 2012 found no association between routine testing and the efficacy of ICD shocks during follow-up or the risk of arrhythmic death. Furthermore, contemporary ICDs rarely fail in their ability to detect and treat ventricular arrhythmias.”</td>
<td>Dan Bessesen, of the CU School of Medicine, says, “This study does not let us know why there is this discrepancy but may point to the different roles of subcutaneous fat and visceral fat in the development of dementia, with subcutaneous fat being protective and visceral fat having harmful effects.”</td>
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<td><strong>Cardiovascular Business, Nov. 4, 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Medical News Today, Nov. 6, 2019</strong></td>
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Annual meeting highlights intersection of obesity, diabetes

“ObesityWeek is really the central hub for science on obesity treatment and weight management,” Paul MacLean, professor at CU Anschutz Medical Campus and an ObesityWeek program committee co-chair, told Endocrine Today. “We are the premier society that brings a lot of different sciences and disciplines together to understand obesity and talk about how we address this worldwide epidemic.”

Healio, Nov. 4, 2019

'Rational combination therapies' stand as the next step in thyroid cancer

Bryan R. Haugen, professor of medicine in the department of medicine-endocrinology, metabolism and diabetes at the University of Colorado School of Medicine received the 2019 Sydney H. Ingbar award during the Annual Meeting of the American Thyroid Association. The award recognizes Haugen as an established investigator who has made outstanding contributions to thyroid-related research.

“More recently, Dr. Haugen is known as the lead author of the 2015 ATA guidelines on the evaluation and management of thyroid nodules in thyroid cancer,” Michael T. McDermott, physician in the department of endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism at the University of Colorado Health Diabetes and Endocrinology Clinic-Anschutz Medical Campus, said during a presentation. “Other than being a great researcher, Dr. Haugen is a great clinician, wonderful teacher and a great friend.”

Healio, Nov. 4, 2019

A United States veteran is seeking a special study to treat his traumatic brain injury

Juan Quintanilla enlisted in the United States Army back in 1995… Quintanilla was diagnosed with chronic Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. He medically retired in 2010. Yet, he was able to find help with a program by the Marcus Institute for Brain Health at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

KZTV (Corpus Christi), Nov. 6, 2019
Ghost stories haunt halls of former Fitzsimons Army Hospital in Aurora

There were a lot of people [who] died here,” said Dave Turnquist, associate vice chancellor for facilities management. Turnquist says the hospital walls have seen a lot. “[Fitzsimons] took the first patients from Pearl Harbor,” he said. The building is also where President Dwight D. Eisenhower was treated after his 1955 heart attack.

“The spirit of someone is here or the soul of someone is wandering around this building,” said Udalio “Del” Quiel, director of facilities management. Quiel recalls a spring snowstorm in 2005 when he was working late at night. “I notice shadows underneath the crack of my door,” he said. “I … open the door… found no one in there. I went back to my desk and sat on the chair. And I’m staring at the crack underneath the door and there goes the shadows again.”

Fox31, Oct. 31, 2019