



April 10 – 16, 2020

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[Colorado Matters April 10, 2020: Gov. Polis Talks Testing, State's Future; What A Day In The ICUS Is Like](#)

**Marc Moss**, head of the Division of Pulmonary Sciences & Critical Care for the CU School of Medicine, interviewed (Starts at 24:21 and ends at 33:10). "The crisis can tear people apart or the crisis can bring people together. And I think in the hospital there's a common goal and the common goal is that we all are there to provide the best care to our patients that are in need. It's a moral commitment that way and I really do feel that this has bonded people together and strengthened the sense of community in the hospital."

*CPR News, April 10, 2020*



[Coronavirus disproportionately affecting people of color](#)

"The healthcare system needs to not forget that we saw this stark disparity and make changes to address it going forward," said **Shanta Zimmer**, University of Colorado School of Medicine Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion. "We need to make sure that no sectors of our population are left behind."

*Fox31, April 10, 2020*



[44-year-old man recovering from COVID-19 after five days on the ventilator](#)

"We're not at the point where we have to make really difficult decisions of who gets a ventilator and who doesn't," said **Jeff Hollis** [assistant professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine]. That's in part because so many people have been social distancing.

*9News, April 15, 2020*



### [Colorado hospitals in 'a better place,' seeing fewer COVID-19 patients, ER doctor says](#)

"What we are seeing are patients who are presenting acute respiratory illness and then some of them are very, very sick," said **Richard Zane**, who specializes in Emergency Medicine at University of Colorado Hospital. "About 35%, or 40% or so, of the patients that we've admitted to the hospital have required critical care and most of those patients."

*Channel 7, April 10, 2020*

### [Hundreds of patients with coronavirus have recovered, left UHealth hospitals](#)

"Our numbers of hospitalized patients remain near record highs, however, we're beginning to see some positive trends. The rate of increase of new cases has slowed, and our number of hospitalized patients is growing more slowly, but it is essential that Coloradans continue to practice social distancing. The minute we let up, we will likely see cases spike again," said **Richard Zane**, UHealth chief innovation officer and emergency services executive director.

*Fox31, April 14, 2020*

### [New Coronavirus Hospital Discharge Data Shows Stay-At-Home Order Flattening The Curve](#)

"The rate of the number of cases is decreasing. There's still more cases, but the rate of increase has decreased, and the rate of discharge is increasing," explained **Richard Zane**, UHealth's Chief Innovation Officer and Head of Emergency Medicine. "So, that's great news."

*CBS4, April 14, 2020*

### [Colorado Doctors Seeing Jump In People Avoiding Hospital For Medical Care](#)

"We have seen patients who have delayed care related to COVID-19. It could be because of fear of catching the disease right now. I would reassure Coloradans that if they have an emergent or urgent issue, it is safe to seek care. We have every precaution in place and are ready. If they aren't sure, we have virtual health services available for urgent care (24/7), primary care and dozens of specialty care clinics," said **Richard Zane**, chief innovation officer for UHealth and chair of emergency medicine for the CU School of Medicine.

*CBS4, April 16, 2020*



### [These Are The Treatments And Cures Colorado Researchers Are Developing For Coronavirus](#)

[Thomas Campbell](#), at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, is working on a clinical trial of sarilumab, an anti-inflammatory drug used to treat rheumatoid arthritis. The trial was developed jointly by the pharmaceutical companies Regeneron and Sanofi.



“There is hope in this treatment,” said **Kyle Annen**, medical director of the blood collection center at Children’s Hospital of Colorado [and assistant professor of pathology at CU School of Medicine]. “However, it’s not a certainty. We don’t know for sure that it is the best option or the only option. It may be a great option with other medications. There may be another medication that comes along that is identified to work better. But it’s great that we have this one additional thing in our arsenal to try to fight COVID-19.”

*CPR News, April 11, 2020*



### [Can Plasma Treat The Coronavirus? Two Families Anxiously Await An Answer](#)

“I mean we really just were able to put a rush on things when we felt that they were a priority,” said **Kyle Annen**, medical director of the blood collection center at Children’s Hospital of Colorado [and assistant professor of pathology at CU School of Medicine]. “This convalescent plasma collection was an example of that. My team was all hands on deck ready to go. Everyone recognized how significant this was and how important this was for this patient.”



“There are a lot of bugs in the process that need to be worked out before we can really process donors and get those donors in the numbers that we would really like to and in the numbers that I think would be helpful to the most number of patients,” said **Mary Berg**, medical director of transfusion services at University of Colorado Hospital [and professor of clinical practice of pathology at CU School of Medicine]. We can’t just collect people and worry about the testing later.”

*CPR News, April 10, 2020*



### [How coronavirus antibody tests could help us return to “normal” life](#)

Within a week of infection, McNally explains, a type of antibody known as immunoglobulin M, or IgM for short, emerges. IgM “is the initial attack force,” **Kyle Annen**, professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine on the Anschutz Medical Campus, tells Mic.

*Mic, April 15, 2020*



### [Do coronavirus symptoms include a ‘fizzing,’ tingling or burning sensation?](#)

Other coronaviruses that affect humans can invade the central nervous system, so it makes sense COVID-19 may have neurologic manifestations, **Kenneth Tyler**, chair of neurology at University of Colorado School of Medicine, told [Neurology Today](#), a publication of the American Academy of Neurology.

*Today, April 13, 2020*



### [What it’s like to suffer from the coronavirus’s weirdest symptom](#)

**Thomas Finger** is a professor of cellular and structural biology specializing in taste at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. Based on accounts he’s collected from around the world, “The very peculiar thing about the covid taste loss is that it may preferentially affect sweet,” he says, meaning for some people, that’s the first taste to go — but it remains unknown why tastes would not be impacted equally.

*Washington Post, April 14, 2020*



### [Good Question: Is Exercising Outside A Greater Threat?](#)

Infectious disease specialist **Michelle Barron** of UCHHealth University of Colorado Hospital says time of exposure remains a big deal. “You still have to have some pretty generous contact time and so if you’re running... you’re fine if you’re passing people and making sure you’re staying some distance apart.”

*CBS4, April 15, 2020*



### [How to Prevent Psychiatric Crises During a Pandemic](#)

It's not whether EDs have the capacity to conduct assessments and crisis evaluations for patients with psychiatric conditions that worries **Scott Simpson**, medical director of psychiatric emergency services at Denver Health and associate professor of psychiatry at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. It's what will happen to patients after such assessments are made that worries him. "I think there are going to be a lot of challenges coming up related to transitions of care," he said.

*Psychiatric News, April 9, 2020*



### [The Howling: Americans Let It Out From Depths of Pandemic](#)

The nightly howl is a primal affirmation that provides a moment's bright spot each evening by declaring, collectively: We shall prevail, said **Scott Cypers**, director of Stress and Anxiety programs at the Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Depression Center at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

*The New York Times via Associated Press, April 10, 2020*



### [Health care workers inspired by new nightly ritual](#)

**Christina Yannetsos**, an emergency medicine physician at the UHealth University of Colorado Hospital [and assistant professor of emergency medicine at CU School of Medicine], says she is thankful her team has enough protective gear and ventilators, but they are treating very sick patients. The sudden sacrifices forced on by the pandemic are a challenge for everyone. Her mother is battling a kind of bone cancer and she can't be with her until this is all over. "I haven't seen her in over a month," said Yannetsos.

*Fox31, April 14, 2020*



### [With gun sales spiking in Colorado, let's talk about suicide prevention](#)

As part of an ongoing focus on mental health during this time of coronavirus isolation, Rocky Mountain PBS spoke with University of Colorado emergency physician and researcher **Emmy Betz** and Jacquelyn Clark, owner of Bristlecone Shooting, Training & Retail Center in Lakewood. Betz and Clark are among the founding members of the [Colorado Firearm Safety Coalition](#), a group of researchers, gun shop owners and government experts who together with the goal of preventing suicide.

*Rocky Mountain PBS, April 11, 2020*



### [COVID-19: A guide to making telepsychiatry work](#)

“The genie is out of the bottle on this,” said **Jay Shore**, director of telemedicine at the Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Depression Center and director of telemedicine programming for the department of psychiatry at the University of Colorado. He thinks this is the beginning of a new era that will last beyond the pandemic. “There’s going to be a much wider and diffuse acceptance of telemedicine as we go forward,” he added.

*The Hospitalist, April 9, 2020*



### [“Like the rug was ripped out from under me”: The mental health costs of coronavirus](#)

At 7 p.m. on a Sunday night in March, **Daniel Goldberg** began to feel a familiar sense of panic and doom. The public health ethics professor [at University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus] was standing in his kitchen, scrolling through Twitter on his phone, when suddenly it felt like he was spiraling into a dark hole.

*Denver Post, April 12, 2020*



### [AHA News: Cut Off From Counseling During the Coronavirus Pandemic? There Are Options](#)

**Matt Mishkind**, deputy director of the Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Depression Center at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Denver, is concerned about families learning to juggle work and school at home. “We’re going to start to see a lot more parenting issues come out, and probably more need for family services as well,” he predicted.

*CBS4, April 14, 2020*



### [Coping with sickness and stress](#)

Family worries can also increase stress. **Mona Abaza**, is an otolaryngologist at the UCHHealth University of Colorado Hospital and a professor with the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and she’s married to a small business owner whose sales dropped by 98% over four days at the start of the pandemic. “My husband is on conference calls trying to figure out how to keep people employed,” she says. She’s also coping with challenges to her work life: “I’m an otolaryngologist trying to see patients through virtual visits,” says Abaza. “I can’t see the organ I take care of without specialized scopes and I can’t do that virtually.”

*AAMC, April 10, 2020*



### [An unintended, yet still dangerous, COVID-19 impact: Those with life-threatening illness avoiding ER](#)

“Time is really of the essence,” said **Michelle Leppert**, a neurologist with UCHealth [and assistant professor of neurology at CU School of Medicine] who treated Fouts. “This was true before COVID. And just the faster we can get a patient seen and get care to them, the better the outcome is.”

*Channel 7, April 14, 2020*



### [Fertility treatments halted, delayed during COVID-19](#)

“Our practice has drastically changed,” **Shona Murray** [associate professor of clinical practice of obstetrics and gynecology for CU School of Medicine] with University of Colorado Advanced Reproductive Medicine .... “I’m seeing as many new patients right now as I would typically, the big difference is we’re not doing treatments right now,” Murray said. The delayed impact of starting a family for patients can be heartbreaking, “it’s really devastating because often before people get in our door they’ve been trying for years,” said Murray.

*KOAA (Colorado Springs), April 14, 2020*



### [Get a medical power of attorney, doctors say](#)

Typically, these discussions about who should speak for you if you’re ill and how aggressive potentially end-of-life medical care should be are difficult. But the coronavirus pandemic is making them easier, said **Dan Matlock**, an associate professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine who specializes in geriatrics.

*Fox31, April 12, 2020*



### [The COVID-19 talk families need to have now](#)

In a time when the pandemic has taken away people’s control over many aspects of their lives, “advanced care planning is one of the things under their control right now,” said **Hillary Lum**, a geriatrician and professor at the University of Colorado.

*The Mercury News (San Jose, Calif.), April 14, 2020*



### [Denver doctors helping fight COVID-19 in New York](#)

Some doctors at National Jewish Health in Denver are in New York this week helping the medical team at a Mount Sinai Hospital care for their COVID-19 patients. **Josh Solomon** is one of them. He is an associate professor of medicine at National Jewish Health [and CU School of Medicine] who specializes in pulmonary and critical care. “I’ve of course never seen anything like it,” he said from New York. “They got what we have, times 10.”

*Fox31, April 13, 2020*



### [Severe COVID-19 Infections More Likely In Marijuana Smokers And Vapers](#)

“From China and Italy, we see people who developed COVID-19 and had underlying lung disease, [they] have more complications and die more often,” **Barry J. Make**, a pulmonologist at National Jewish Health [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine], said. “So this is the perfect time to stop smoking.”

*The Fresh Toast, April 10, 2020*



### [A Doctor on ICE's Response to the Pandemic: "You Could Call It COVID-19 Torture"](#)

**Carlos Franco-Paredes**, a professor in the University of Colorado School of Medicine's infectious diseases division, emphasized that crowded, enclosed spaces are the opposite of social distancing. By the time ICE quarantines a symptomatic detainee, that person will have likely have already infected others, he said. Those infected people will transmit the virus to others.

*Mother Jones, April 13, 2020*



### [Opinion: Employer-based insurance is a crumbling defense against a global pandemic](#)

Opinion column by **Jake Fox**, fourth-year medical student at CU School of Medicine, and two co-authors: “This pandemic did not create the issues described, but it continues to magnify them, underscoring the urgent need to uncouple health coverage from employment. Health insurance ought to provide a sense of security – all the more so during a time of new unemployment, or a global pandemic. Employer-based health care fails to do so.”

*Colorado Sun, April 13, 2020*



### [I'm a fourth-year medical student. I don't want to graduate early.](#)

Opinion column by **Erin Aldag**, a member of the class of 2020 at the CU School of Medicine who is currently serving as the MD Student Involvement Co-Chair of the CU COVID-19 Student Response Task Force: "While we are busy helping our communities, there is talk about having fourth-year students graduate early and jump in, right now, to a system that may not even be ready for us. Our mentors are overworked. Nurses and other health care team members are overworked. The battle is still raging fiercely, and our coach is looking to us, asking if we are ready to be put into the fight."

*AAMC, April 14, 2020*



### [Guest Post: The path to COVID-19 economic recovery lies in large-scale testing](#)

Column by **Ankita Arora**, a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora. "We need better planning and preparation for the next wave. Initiatives such as a mass-screening program implemented through point-of-care testing will be essential to break the next chain of transmission."

*Colorado Independent, April 15, 2020*



### [Tofu, Other Isoflavone-Rich Foods May Cut Heart Disease Risk](#)

The findings provide some additional value from data accrued from highly selected populations that consuming isoflavone-containing foods, particularly on a background of a heart-healthy dietary pattern, reduces the risk of developing heart disease, **Robert H. Eckel**, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, told [theheart.org](http://theheart.org) | *Medscape Cardiology*.

*Medscape, April 10, 2020*