Colorado’s Coronavirus Third Wave Is Here, And Hospitalization Will Soon Surpass April’s Peak

“One of the best practices we learned from other states that have already responded to significant outbreaks was to stand up a statewide transfer center,” said Darlene Tady, CHA vice president of clinical affairs [and associate professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine]. “This will allow us to respond rapidly to capacity issues that a city or region of Colorado may face.”

“It’s a constant concern,” said Anuj Mehta, a pulmonologist with National Jewish Health [and assistant professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine], who also works in Denver Health’s ICU. Mehta helped develop Colorado’s guidelines. “Obviously the concern decreased over the summer... And now, right, the concern is there every single day.” Mehta said hospitals and other health care providers purchased more ventilators and made advances in deciding when to use them on patients.

CPR News, Nov. 5, 2020

What the data says about Colorado’s rapidly increasing COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations

Despite the lower death rate, Richard Zane, Head of Emergency Medicine at UCHealth [and chair of emergency medicine at CU School of Medicine] said the good news is not a reason for people to let their guard down. “Be patient, be exceptionally deliberate, be really careful. Mask whenever possible, social distance,” he said. “We will get through this. It’s just not flicking a switch and it’s not instant pudding.”

Channel 7, Nov. 2, 2020
**Viral load may predict ventilator need, death risk; coronavirus damages red blood cells**

As a result, patients’ red cells might be more vulnerable to so-called oxidative stress and other injury, coauthor Angelo D’Alessandro of the University of Colorado [School of Medicine] said in an email. Red cells circulate for up to 120 days before the body replaces them with new ones, and they cannot synthesize new components to replace the damaged parts. This might help explain why some COVID-19 symptoms can last for months, D’Alessandro said.

*Reuters, Nov. 2, 2020*

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**Your Healthy Family: UCHhealth launches 2nd COVID-19 vaccine trial and is looking for participants**

Thomas Campbell, chief clinical research officer of UCHhealth [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine], said this is one of about 40 COVID-19 clinical trials in which UCHhealth locations are participating. In July, UCHhealth announced [uchealth.org] it was partnering with CU School of Medicine to recruit participants for another vaccine trial at University of Colorado Hospital on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

*KOAA, Nov. 2, 2020*

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**Health care workers cope with stress, burnout**

“Everybody across the board — nonclinical staff, EMTs, nurses, physicians — has a pretty high degree of concern around exposing themselves or their families to COVID,” says Elizabeth Harry, senior director of clinical affairs at UCHhealth University of Colorado Hospital [and visiting associate professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine].

Part of the challenge for health care professionals is that, although treatments have improved and there has been a decrease in mortality since the pandemic took hold, “we still don’t have great treatments for patients,” says Robert Lam, a practicing emergency physician and director of physician wellness for the Southern Colorado region of UCHhealth [and assistant clinical professor of emergency medicine at CU School of Medicine].

*Colorado Springs Indy, Nov. 4, 2020*
More Coloradans are dying from Alzheimer’s disease during pandemic as social isolation takes its toll

Alzheimer’s and dementia often progress slowly over a period of years, but if a person’s brain is stressed, they can experience “dips” and will have a harder time bouncing back than someone without a cognitive disorder, said Samantha Holden, medical director of the CU School of Medicine’s Neurobehavior and Memory Disorders Clinic.

*Denver Post, Nov. 1, 2020*

Delayed diagnosis of focal nonmotor seizures represents ‘significant treatment gap’

“This research was prompted by a clinical observation that many patients with focal epilepsy experience delays to diagnosis,” Jacob Pellinen, assistant professor of neurology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, told Healio Neurology.

*Healio, Oct. 29, 2020*

Most Coloradans dealing with high levels of stress on eve of election

Liz Chamberlain is a licensed psychologist with CU Anschutz Health and Wellness Center. She shared some tips on how to deal with election stress. “Stress relief is different for all of us and I think the first part is acknowledging what we’re actually feeling,” she said.

*Fox31, Nov. 2, 2020*

International Students Can’t Vote. But the Stakes Are Personal.

As a scientist, Ankita Arora, a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Colorado’s Anschutz Medical Campus, said she has been alarmed by the Trump administration’s handling of the coronavirus pandemic, in particular the president’s spreading of misinformation. Likewise, she is disturbed by the administration’s attitude toward climate change, which the president has called a “hoax.” “This is American politics,” Arora, who is from India, said, “but it affects the whole world.”

*The Chronicle of Higher Education, Oct. 29, 2020*
On Being Black in the Ivory Tower

Christina Towers, postdoctoral fellow in pharmacology at University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus: “I have always been one of the few black women in every classroom, lab, or department in which I have found myself. I worked hard to prove I deserve a seat in each room.”

Cell, Oct. 29, 2020