



School of Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

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[Colorado has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest COVID death rate. This doctor says the Delta variant may be to blame](#)

“The presence of the delta variant, which is significantly more contagious, but also has been shown to have poorer outcomes, people get sicker from it, is probably what we’re seeing represented with that,” said **Michelle Barron**, senior medical director of infection prevention at UCHHealth [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine].

*9News, July 6, 2021*

[Arvada couple tests positive for COVID-19 despite being fully vaccinated](#)

“Delta is here,” **Michelle Barron** said. Barron is the senior medical director of infection prevention at UCHHealth. She says the delta variant isn’t going away anytime soon. “The part that’s concerning is the delta variant is highly, highly contagious — more contagious than the standard COVID virus we saw at the beginning. Actually 60% potentially more contagious.”

*Channel 7, July 7, 2021*



[Children responsible for 24% of new weekly COVID-19 cases; new push to get Colorado kids vaccinated](#)

“And with this Delta variant we are going to begin to see waning immunity among other populations, including grandparents. So older people have waning immunity, people who are not immunocompetent will likely have waning immunity — or not as good of a response to the vaccine and those people can be at risk,” said **Richard Zane**, Chief Innovation Officer for UCHHealth.

*Fox31, July 7, 2021*



### [Changes to COVID-19 vaccination strategy could speed up herd immunity](#)

“Unfortunately, until we can safely, rapidly, and affordably vaccinate enough people to achieve collective immunity, we cannot afford to disregard the benefits of naturally acquired immunity in those whose prior documented infections have already run their course,” writes **Martin Krsak** [assistant professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] and colleagues.

*News Medical, July 8, 2021*



### [Virus cases are surging at crowded immigration detention centers in the U.S.](#)

**Carlos Franco-Paredes**, an associate professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine who has inspected immigration detention centers during the pandemic, said that several factors were to blame for the surge, including transfers of detainees between facilities, insufficient testing and lax Covid-19 safety measures.

*The New York Times, July 6, 2021*



### [As pandemic wanes, will burnout fuel exodus of Colorado health care workers?](#)

“It’s as if we’ve been in a war zone for the last year,” said **Marc Moss**, head of the Division of Pulmonary Sciences and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, who has researched burnout among hospital workers. “It’s not anyone’s fault. We have tough jobs and we see tragedy.”

*Denver Post, July 3, 2021*



### [Testing children for the COVID-19 vaccine](#)

**Eric Simoes** [clinical professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine] is leading Colorado’s portion of the trial in which two-thirds of participants receive the vaccine and one-third a placebo.

*CGTN, July 2, 2021*



### [Covid Protections Kept Other Viruses at Bay. Now They're Back](#)

"There's nothing about enteroviruses that makes them love even years—they don't have a lucky number," says **Kevin Messacar**, an associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Colorado and Children's Hospital Colorado who was a coauthor on that March analysis. "The model for this whole family of viruses, which is well-described, would not predict that we would wait until 2022 for an outbreak because we missed a cycle. It would say we are continually growing the pool of susceptibles who haven't seen that virus."

*WIRED, July 6, 2021*



### [Kids in Colorado's juvenile detention centers don't always get needed medication, advocates say](#)

**Steven Berkowitz**, a professor in the University of Colorado Department of Psychiatry and Pediatrics, helped start mental health programs in detention centers in Connecticut and Philadelphia.... "In my experience, we never just stopped a medication when kids were admitted to a detention facility," Berkowitz said. "That doesn't make any sense. We'd only do any of that with a good evaluation."

*Cañon City Daily Record, July 4, 2021*



### [July Fourth brought a large number of firework, campfire and grill injuries to hospitals](#)

"The number of burn injuries has gone substantially up compared what I've seen in years past," said **Patrick Duffy**, [assistant professor of surgery at CU School of Medicine and] a UCHealth burn surgeon. He said the last two years have been particularly busy. "We were certainly involved with responding to a number of people who lost parts of fingers and hands and what not for having fireworks go off while they were holding them," Duffy said.

*Fox31, July 5, 2021*



### [Return of alcohol service up in the air for some as airlines see spike in unruly passengers](#)

Limiting alcohol service on planes might also be good from a health standpoint. **Lindsay "Shelley" Forbes**, a fellow at CU School of Medicine said drinking at an altitude higher than what you're accustomed to can have a different effect on the body. "One of the biggest ones is dehydration, and that can obviously make you feel a little bit crummy, headache, kind of fatigued," Forbes said.

*Channel 7, July 6, 2021*



### [Addressing Disparities in Transplant Access among Spanish-Speaking Patients](#)

Compared with non-Hispanic White Americans, Hispanic Americans receive disproportionately fewer organ transplants. In 2018, the Hispanic Transplant Clinic was established at the University of Colorado. **Madhura Pande** and colleagues at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Aurora, conducted a study to examine the efficacy of the program in reducing this disparity.

*Nephrology Times, July 7, 2021*



### [Study: Opioid prescribing preferences, practices among surgical residents and faculty differ](#)

“The opioid epidemic is a huge problem. We know that more than two thirds of the prescriptions that surgeons prescribe aren’t used in the immediate post-operative period by patients and that one in 16 patients who are prescribed opioids for surgery end up having chronic opioid use,” said **Sarah Tevis**, Study Principal Investigator and Assistant Professor of Surgery in Breast Surgical Oncology, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.



“It’s been very well established that post-operative opioid prescribing varies across the board,” continues **Victoria Huynh**, a third-year resident in the department and first author on the study. “We wanted to look at how we’re doing as a department in terms of opioid prescribing.”

*News Medical, July 8, 2021*



### [Did Plague Push Immune System Evolution?](#)

“We found that innate immune markers increased in frequency in modern people from the town compared with plague victims,” said **Paul Norman**, an associate professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Anschutz Medical Campus. “This suggests these markers might have evolved to resist the plague.”

*Infectious Disease Special Edition, July 2, 2021*



### [9 Ways to Fight Back Against RA Fatigue](#)

“When your body is inflamed from RA, your body diverts its energy to healing,” explains **Kevin Deane**, a professor of rheumatology at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

*Health Central, July 7, 2021*

