<table>
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<th><strong>November 19 – 25, 2021</strong></th>
<th><strong>Distributed by the University of Colorado School of Medicine</strong></th>
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### Family shares COVID lesson after lifesaving surgery

“I hate to use the term last-ditch effort, but really that’s where we were at. This was the last thing we could do to try and save her and her baby,” said Cristina Wood, a high-risk obstetrical anesthesiologist [associate professor of anesthesiology at CU School of Medicine] and part of the team that performed the dual operation on Sarah and her baby.

*9News, Nov. 25, 2021*

### ICU bed shortage forcing hospitals to find more space

Jean Kutner, chief medical officer [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine], said the situation is impacting patient care. “We do have more patients that we’re needing to double up on space. We’re having patients where we’re sort of constantly moving them around the hospital to make sure if a patient needs critical care, then they’re in a critical care bed,” Kutner said.

*Fox31, Nov. 18, 2021*

### Facing patient surge, healthcare workers take extra shifts this Thanksgiving

“I’d love to be home with my family but my second family is my team in the ICU,” Joshua Solomon, of the Section of Critical Care Medicine and Department of Medicine with National Jewish Health [and associate professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine], said. Solomon took a shift at another hospital in the metro area this Thanksgiving to help out. He spent his holiday at Good Samaritan Medical Center in the ICU.

*Fox31, Nov. 25, 2021*
What roles should vaccination status, age play in decision if Colorado has to ration health care?

Anuj Mehta, a pulmonary critical care physician at Denver Health [and assistant professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] who wrote a first draft of updates to the current guidelines, noted there was some controversy about whether vaccination status should be a factor in decisions, but said he agreed with adding it. “Our ethical principles are to save the most lives,” not to punish irresponsible behavior, he said.

The frustration that some vaccinated people feel is understandable, but in medical ethics, it’s not acceptable to withhold care from people because they may have contributed to their illness, said Matthew Wynia, director of the University of Colorado’s Center for Bioethics and Humanities.

*Denver Post, Nov. 21, 2021*

Jefferson, Arapahoe and other Front Range counties are bringing back indoor mask mandates as the COVID surge continues

“Hospital volumes were very high before this whole delta wave started. And now we’re really arriving at this crisis,” said Adit Ginde, an emergency doctor at University Hospital on the CU Anschutz campus in Aurora. “The challenge is that we don’t believe that we’re at the peak of this wave of the pandemic.”

Eric Poeschla worries the numbers will only grow over the holidays. “Everyone’s not only getting together, but the sort of mixing nationwide and this vast shuffling thing we do every Thanksgiving and Christmas (increases the likelihood of more spread of the virus),” said Poeschla, chief of infectious diseases at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, “And so there’s almost certainly going to be a further jump.”

*CPR News, Nov. 23, 2021*

Denver and its surrounding counties just issued a new mask order. These five charts show why.

“If you could decrease our COVID hospitalization by even 10 to 15%, that has huge impacts for our margins,” Michelle Barron, an infectious disease specialist at UCH Health University of Colorado Hospital [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] said earlier this month.

*Colorado Sun, Nov. 23, 2021*
U.S. pediatricians say Covid cases in children are on the rise.

These cases accounted for about a quarter of the country’s caseload for the week, the statement said. Children under 18 make up about 22 percent of the U.S. population. “Is there cause for concern? Absolutely,” Sean O’Leary, the vice chair of the academy’s infectious diseases committee [and professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine], said in an interview on Monday night. “What’s driving the increase in kids is there is an increase in cases overall.”

*The New York Times, Nov. 23, 2021*

Debating whether to vaccinate your kids against COVID? Here are some things to know.

“You’re either a stop in the chain of transmission or you’re a propagator in the chain of transmission,” said Sam Dominguez, a pediatrician at Children's Hospital Colorado [and associate professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine]. “And the more stops we have, the better off we are as a community, as a state, as a nation, and as a world.”

*Colorado Sun, Nov. 23, 2021*

Former Bronco David Bruton Jr. goes from football helmet to cycling helmet

Since retiring five years ago, David Bruton Jr. has been working toward a doctorate in physical therapy at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. He used cycling to get him through the coursework. “There’s this direct correlation between aerobic fitness and retaining knowledge. I feel that this is beneficial for me,” Bruton said. “Hopefully this will help me recall some of the information that got lost in the wayside.”

*Fox31, Nov. 18, 2021*

Coloradans looking to KO Parkinson’s find refuge in the boxing ring

Parkinson’s patients who show continuous improvement or stabilized motor scores also tend to show improvement in their exercise program, notes Jeanne Feuerstein, movement disorders specialist and assistant professor of neurology at University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

*Colorado Sun, Nov. 18, 2021*
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<td><strong>Colorado revamps opioid anti-stigma campaign to reach more diverse audience</strong></td>
<td>The Office of Behavioral Health also consulted with Daniel Goldberg, associate professor and researcher at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus Center for Bioethics and Humanities, who specializes in structural stigma.</td>
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<td><strong>Intercostal Nerve Block Cuts Opioids After Thoracic Surgery</strong></td>
<td>Maung Hlaing, a cardiothoracic anesthesiologist and associate professor at the School of Medicine, University of Colorado, commented that the review suggests ICNB is preferred over systemic analgesics.</td>
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<td><strong>How a team-based approach affects care for high-risk PCI patients</strong></td>
<td>“PCI is becoming more and more complex to treat a sicker population, but there is less case volume to support the development of operators’ technical skills and experience,” wrote first author Christopher P. Kovach, a cardiologist at the University of Colorado, and colleagues.</td>
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<td><strong>Can hospitals go too digital? 8 execs weigh in</strong></td>
<td>Richard Zane, Chief Innovation Officer at UCHealth: I lament the term “digital” or “virtual” health because there is nothing virtual about it; it’s really technology-enabled “actual” care. At the end of the day, healthcare boils down to people, process and tools. We must keep in mind that digital is just a tool for people to take care of other people and “digital” is not a destination in and of itself.</td>
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<td><strong>UCHealth-backed mobile blood-pressure startup prepares for FDA approval and ‘massive’ fundraise</strong></td>
<td>UCHealth was part of a group of investors in the company’s $15.5M funding round in March, that was led by Menlo Ventures. As part of that investment, Richard Zane, chief innovation officer for UCHealth, joined the company’s board, and the product is being tested and validated at Anschutz Medical Campus.</td>
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