



School of Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

October 8 – 14, 2021

Distributed by the University of Colorado School of Medicine



[Colorado public health officials say COVID cases continue to rise in children](#)

“We certainly had been seeing some of our numbers go up and down, but never significant enough to say that we’re in decline,” said **Michelle Barron**, UHealth Senior Medical Director of Infection Prevention [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine].

9News, Oct. 8, 2021



[Children’s Hospital ‘in difficult moment,’ though pediatric COVID-19 hospitalizations remain low](#)

Still, **Sean O’Leary** [professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine] pushed back on the idea that COVID-19 is “benign” for children. “With well over 500 pediatric deaths as I speak, COVID-19 fits squarely in the top-10 causes of childhood deaths in the United States,” he said.



“This is historic. This doesn’t happen,” **Mike DiStefano**, the chief medical officer at Children’s Colorado Springs campus [and associate professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine], told The Gazette last week. “I’ve been doing this for 15, 18-plus years, and this is not when we see our respiratory surge. It’s really, highly unusual.”

Denver Gazette, Oct. 13, 2021



[Some children’s hospitals see another surge in rare Covid-19 complication MIS-C](#)

At Children's Hospital Colorado, they too saw "significantly" more MIS-C cases in September, compared to previous months, according to **Sam Dominguez**, a pediatric disease expert at the hospital [and professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine]. But he said they aren't seeing the same rates as they were seeing in December 2020 and January 2021.

CNN, Oct. 11, 2021



[Administering flu vaccines to children having surgery substantially boosts vaccination rates](#)

“The ongoing threat of a simultaneous COVID-19 pandemic and seasonal flu epidemic makes the widespread use of flu vaccines more important than ever,” said **Tyler Morrissey**, study lead author and assistant professor, pediatric anesthesiology, Department of Anesthesiology, University of Colorado School of Medicine.

News-Medical, Oct. 11, 2021



[Mental health providers can't keep up with growing demand](#)

“We’re trying to see as many people as we can, but I don’t see it slowing down,” said **Liz Chamberlain**, a licensed psychologist at the CU Anschutz Health and Wellness Center.



Mental health providers are working to keep up with the growing demand. **Neill Epperson**, chair of psychiatry at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, said the department is actively hiring across positions. “We need more psychiatrists. We need more licensed psychologists, licensed clinical social workers or professional counselors,” Epperson said. Epperson said the department was growing rapidly before the pandemic began, but their patient volume has increased 65% in just the past year.

Fox31, Oct. 7, 2021



[With COVID-19 mandates rolling out, what to know about religious exemptions](#)

“One of the most important public health practices we have to alleviate outbreaks and things like measles and whooping cough are vaccines required for school or for daycare entry,” **Joshua Williams**, an assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, told ABC News.

ABC News, Oct. 8, 2021



[Some hospitals resorted to crisis triage during the pandemic. A Colorado doctor says more should have.](#)

Matthew Wynia, director of the Center for Bioethics and Humanities at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, says the standards should have been used more widely during the pandemic. Wynia is a national expert on formulating crisis standards of care. He was instrumental in helping Colorado to rewrite its crisis standards during the early weeks of the pandemic, and he has also provided guidance to states and hospitals nationwide.

Colorado Sun, Oct. 11, 2021



[Breakthrough COVID may not be as threatening as scientists thought](#)

Ross Kedl: In all these cases where you have these big breakthrough infections, there's always unvaccinated people in the room. Palca: Kedl is an immunologist at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. He says it's hard to prove that an infected vaccinated person actually was responsible for transmitting their infection to someone else.

NPR, Oct. 11, 2021



[Fox News host Will Cain falsely claims vaccine more dangerous for children than COVID-19](#)

"You're far more likely to get sick and hospitalized if you get a COVID infection than if you get the vaccine," said **Sean O'Leary**, a professor at the University of Colorado and the vice chair of the committee on infectious diseases at the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Politifact, Oct. 7, 2021



[West Nile virus cases climbing in Colorado](#)

The mosquito-borne illness is known to cause fever and headaches, and in severe cases, can cause neuroinvasive disease such as encephalitis, a brain infection, or meningitis, or death. Yet, 80% of those who contract the virus don't show symptoms, according to **Daniel Pastula**, associate professor of neurology, medicine and epidemiology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Colorado School of Public Health.

Colorado Sun, Oct. 9, 2021



[Heather De Keyser, MD, MS: The Promise of Biologics in Pediatric Asthma and Atopic Dermatitis](#)

In an interview with HCPLive, **Heather De Keyser**, Assistant Professor, Pediatric Pulmonology Breathing Institute, University of Colorado School of Medicine and Children's Hospital Colorado, spoke of the promise that biologics such as mepolizumab and dupilumab present in the treatment of vulnerable pediatric groups with asthma and atopic dermatitis.

HCPLive, Oct. 8, 2021