**Pandemic in Colorado seeing fifth wave, health experts say**

“I think this is the sound of health care grinding to a halt yet again,” Richard Zane, the chief innovation officer and chief of emergency medicine at UCHealth said. He said with COVID numbers rising again and just regular day-to-day patients, health care workers are exhausted. “When you look at COVID numbers, you would say December would have been the worst peak, but right now is the worst time we’ve seen in the pandemic because of everything happening at the same time,” Zane said.

*Fox31, Sept. 19, 2021*

**As ICU beds fill up, Colorado hospitals beg public to get vaccinated against COVID – and the flu**

Adit Ginde, an emergency medicine physician at UCHealth [and professor of emergency medicine at CU School of Medicine], said hospitals also are dealing with some vaccinated staff having to stay home because of COVID-19 symptoms. They haven’t become seriously ill, but it’s one more strain on a system that’s at capacity, he said. While severe illness is rare after COVID-19 vaccination, milder breakthrough infections are less so. “We’re asking the community to do their part” by getting vaccinated and taking precautions, he said.

*Greeley Tribune, Sept. 20, 2021*

**Solutions: How one state is trying to boost vaccination rates**

Marc Moss, head of the Division of Pulmonary Sciences and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine-Anschutz, told reporters that frontline health-care workers are approaching a breaking point after providing around-the-clock care for COVID patients for more than 18 months.

*Atlanta Journal- Constitution, Sept. 19, 2021*
Colorado counties reinstate mask mandates, causing some confusion, but mostly praise

Anna Euser is an associate professor of maternal-fetal medicine for the University of Colorado Hospital [and CU School of Medicine] who says a mask is a barrier to prevent spread. “I’ve started to wear a mask again myself as I’m out in the community and going about my day-to-day activities,” said Euser. “Even though I’m fully vaccinated. In my opinion, until we have a much higher universal vaccination rate, the safest thing for everybody is for everybody to wear masks.”

Channel 7, Sept. 16, 2021

Big Events With Big Crowds Are Back In Colorado, But the Risk Of COVID Never Left

Michelle Barron from UC Health [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] said concerned patrons like Hancock should first consider the venue and what the vaccination status might be of those around you. “I think you have to sit down and sort of do the math in your head as to what the implication is, A) you got COVID, or B) What's the real risk?” Barron said.

Infectious disease doctor Sean O’Leary [professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine], with Children’s Hospital Colorado, agrees your level of risk depends on what events you’re looking to attend and your personal circumstances. When it comes to children under 12, who can’t yet get vaccinated, the risk to them of severe disease, hospitalization or death is lower than older adults. “But it’s not zero,” said O’Leary. “It's something that I think is a very personal decision in terms of 'are you willing to accept that risk?'”

CPR News, Sept. 21, 2021

COVID vaccine boosters aren’t approved for everyone, so what next?

Jean Kutner, chief medical officer at UCHealth [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine], summarized Friday’s decision by the FDA. “It’s a recommendation process, so we make sure that we’re using the best evidence to keep us all safe from COVID,” she said.

Fox31, Sept. 17, 2021
Here is who will vote on which booster-shot policies the C.D.C. should adopt

**Matthew Daley** is a practicing pediatrician and a vaccine safety investigator at the Institute for Health Research, Kaiser Permanente Colorado, in Aurora, Colo. He is also an associate professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

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

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**COVID In Colorado: Doctors React To FDA Decision On Vaccine Booster Shots For Only Targeted Group**

“They felt like there wasn’t sufficient data to recommend it broadly to all,” Director of Infection Prevention at UCHealth, **Michelle Barron** [professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] said.

*CBS4, Sept. 17, 2021*

**Should those with J&J vaccine get a booster shot?**

“It’s not considered unsafe, at least based on the students that have been performed in several European countries. The question is whether it’s the right combination, or whether she should just wait for the J&J boosters,” said **Michelle Barron**, senior medical director of infection prevention at UCHealth.

*Fox31, Sept. 16, 2021*

**What is the difference between 3rd doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and booster shots?**

“Third doses imply that, for whatever reason, you didn’t have a full response to the (vaccine) series,” said **Michelle Barron**, senior medical director of infection prevention and control for UCHealth [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine]. “A booster implies that you did fine, you got a full response from it, but it’s because of time or for whatever reason, you need your immune system to be reminded about it.”

*Steamboat Pilot & Today, Sept. 21, 2021*
<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Do I have fall allergies or COVID-19?</strong></th>
<th>According to National Jewish Health Allergist Flavia Hoyte [associate professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine], “Most people who have allergies know what their allergies feel like and when they tend to peak.”</th>
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<td><em>Fox31, Sept. 22, 2021</em></td>
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<td><strong>UCHealth anticipating early and rough flu season</strong></td>
<td>“This year is a little different than last year in that last year we had school closures, we had mandated masks, we had a lot of uptick in the flu vaccines with the concern that we were going to have this terrible flu case, in addition to COVID. None of that is in place now, or it’s in a limited fashion,” said Michelle Barron, senior medical director of infection prevention and control for UCHealth [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine].</td>
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<td><em>KKTV (Colorado Springs), Sept. 20, 2021</em></td>
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<td><strong>EXPLAINER: What are ‘Crisis Standards of Care?’</strong></td>
<td>Matthew Wynia, a University of Colorado professor of medicine and health ethics expert, said state authorities should be responsible for establishing strategies needed to make triage decision fairly, so doctors and nurses aren’t left making those calls on their own at a patient’s bedside.</td>
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<td><em>Hilton Head (S.C.) Island Packet, Sept. 18, 2021</em></td>
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<td><strong>Statewide modeling report shows COVID-19 infections slowing amid fifth wave</strong></td>
<td>The group of experts that created the report includes modeling scientists at the Colorado School of Public Health and the University of Colorado School of Medicine at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, as well as experts from CU Boulder, CU Denver and Colorado State University, according to a release.</td>
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<td><em>9News, Sept. 19, 2021</em></td>
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See the miracle of a mom getting her sight back after a misdiagnosis left her blind for 15 years

Connie did her best to be as active and upbeat as she was before her eyesight failed. But in 2018, during a routine visit to the UCHealth Sue Anschutz-Rodgers Eye Center, she was floored by a stunning revelation. Ophthalmologist Jeffrey SooHoo [associate professor of ophthalmology at CU School of Medicine] told Connie she’d been misdiagnosed.

USA Today, Sept. 17, 2021

Uncontrollable vomiting due to marijuana use on rise, study finds

“They are writhing, holding their stomach, complaining of really bad abdominal pain and nausea,” said Sam Wang, a pediatric emergency medicine specialist and toxicologist at Children’s Hospital Colorado, who treats adolescents with the condition....“It’s pretty universal for these patients to say they need a really, really hot shower, or a really hot bath, to improve their symptoms,” said Wang, who is also an associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

CNN, Sept. 17, 2021