



School of Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

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[Doctors in space: CU's Boulder and School of Medicine campuses will offer a joint degree program to send MDs to infinity and beyond](#)

Starting in fall of 2023, the [University of Colorado Boulder's Department of Aerospace Engineering](#) and the [University of Colorado School of Medicine](#) in Aurora will offer a joint MA-MS program to prepare the first generation of astronauts equipped with a medical degree....The idea for the joint degree has roots in a course designed by the CU School of Medicine that [simulated what it's like to tend to patients and survive on a harsh environment like Mars](#). The course has been funded by a CU System grant that can be used to purchase technology a campus or department cannot afford.

*CPR News, Aug. 14, 2022*



[Stressed out, busy moms say microdosing mushrooms makes life easier and brighter. Researchers caution that they are 'experimenting on themselves'](#)

**Neill Epperson**, one of the world's foremost experts on women's mental health and the chair of psychiatry at the University of Colorado School of Medicine at the Anschutz Medical campus, said the majority of people using SSRIs, or prescription antidepressants, are women.... "Parenting is freaking stressful," Epperson said. "We have created a very stressful world for everyone and you have to understand that our physiology does not evolve as quickly as our environment has evolved."

*CPR News, Aug. 16, 2022*



### [Are Earbuds Damaging My Hearing?](#)

The idea that earbuds are more damaging to hearing than other headphone types is just false, said **Cory Portnuff**, an audiologist at the University of Colorado Hospital [and assistant clinical professor of otolaryngology at CU School of Medicine]. “The misconception stems from the thought that, because an earbud sits farther into your ear, it would do more damage than something that sits farther away.”

*The New York Times, Aug. 16, 2022*



### [Q&A: Updated CDC guidance has implications for children, schools](#)

We spoke with **Sonja C. O’Leary**, medical director of school-based health centers at Denver Health [assistant professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine] and chair of the AAP’s Council on School Health, about the updated guidance and other challenges facing K-12 systems this year.

*Healio, Aug. 15, 2022*



### [Why some people still haven’t had COVID](#)

**Thomas Campbell**, an internal medicine doctor at the University of Colorado Hospital [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine], said he thinks the biggest reason behind not getting sick doesn’t have much to do with science and will probably frustrate anyone who has been sick. “I think a lot of that is due to luck,” said Campbell.

*Channel 7, Aug. 15, 2022*



### [Symptoms Linger for Some Children After Acute COVID-19, MIS-C](#)

**Aline B. Maddux**, from the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Children’s Hospital Colorado in Aurora, and colleagues conducted a multicenter, prospective observational cohort study in 25 U.S. pediatric hospitals to examine risk factors for postdischarge sequelae in children and adolescents (aged younger than 21 years) after hospitalization for acute COVID-19 or MIS-C.

*HealthDay, Aug. 12, 2022*



### [Could polio come back? What to know about the virus](#)

“This would spread through communities and parents would be terrified,” explained **Daniel Pastula**, neuroinfectious disease expert at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. “Their children would become paralyzed sometimes just by swimming in the summer. It would affect rich and poor, no matter your background. Matter of fact, one of our presidents, Franklin D. Roosevelt, contracted polio.”

*Fox31, Aug. 15, 2022*



### [What Coloradans Need to Know About Monkeypox](#)

**Daniel Pastula**, neuroinfectious disease specialist, UHealth University of Colorado Hospital [and associate professor of neurology at CU School of Medicine]: Monkeypox is what we call a zoonotic disease, meaning it can be spread between animals and people. Back in 2003, a shipment of pet prairie dogs [which were housed with infected rodents imported from Ghana] caused an outbreak in the United States. Since then, it’s really only been identified in central or western Africa.



How does the virus spread? **Sarah Rowan**, infectious disease specialist, Denver Health [and associate professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine]: Close physical contact. That could be respiratory secretions, close skin-to-skin contact, or from touching a surface that was in contact with a monkeypox sore. All of those things could happen from a variety of activities, including (but not limited to) sex.

*5280, Aug. 11, 2022*



### [Risk Factors in Kids Linked to Stroke as Soon as 30s, 40s](#)

“While strokes in childhood and very early adulthood are not likely caused by atherosclerotic risk factors, it does look like these risk factors increase throughout early and young adulthood and become significant risk factors for stroke in the 30s and 40s,” lead author **Sharon N. Poisson**, associate professor of neurology at the University of Colorado, Aurora, Colorado, told *theheart.org* | *Medscape Cardiology*.

*Medscape, Aug. 12, 2022*



### [Greater engagement with diabetes care linked to lower glucose levels for young people](#)

“In adolescents and young adults with diabetes, daily personal factors such as self-esteem, health perception, and plans or desire to self-manage diabetes all impact day-to-day glycemia,” **Laurel H. Messer**, assistant professor of pediatrics at the Barbara Davis Center for Diabetes, University of Colorado Anschutz School of Medicine, told Healio.

*Healio, Aug. 11, 2022*



### [Why do my fingers swell while hiking?](#)

Have you ever been hiking or running, and your fingers started to swell? You are not alone. In fact, this happens to many people, especially during the summertime. **William Cornwell** [associate professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] at UHealth said there are several factors that can cause your hands and feet to swell while you hike and exercise.

*Fox31, Aug. 11, 2022*



### [What is droperidol? Sedative could be used in Aurora](#)

According to **Vik Bebarta**, a professor of emergency medicine, toxicology and pharmacology at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, the drug, which also can be used to treat nausea and vomiting, does not affect a patient’s breathing. “It doesn’t affect breathing. It doesn’t slow the breathing, so it’s commonly used in ICUs, operating rooms, emergency departments, across the country,” he said.

*Fox31, Aug. 11, 2022*



### [New partnership aims to bring needed mental health care to Cherry Creek students](#)

**Ron-Li Liaw**, Mental Health in Chief at Children’s Hospital and director of the division of child and adolescent mental health at CU Anschutz’s department of psychiatry, said that finding providers for the center will be “a major recruitment effort” and that efforts are already underway to start bringing people on board.

*Aurora Sentinel, Aug. 18, 2022*



[Colorado medical schools use live actors to teach future doctors, but the pandemic permanently changed some of the ways they do it](#)

**Christina Cass** is a standardized patient [and supervisor at the CU Center for Advancing Professional Excellence]. Her job is to memorize scripts and act out a wide range of different scenarios to allow medical students to apply bedside manner skills they've learned in the classroom in a realistic medical setting. There are currently 81 standardized patients — or SPs, as they're referred to — employed part-time at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, home to Colorado's largest SP program.

On the Monday after CU Anschutz's shutdown on March 13, 2020, medical students fired up their laptops and met their SPs online for "telehealth visits." The switch took some quick thinking from tech team members and program coordinators, such as CU Anschutz's Center for Advancing Professional Excellence director **Shimaa Basha** and Simulation Education Project coordinator **Tanya Russell**. "Converting (sessions) to a virtual conversation took a lot of creative energy ... to put it together and not jeopardize the session outcomes or what the students can get out of it," Basha said.

*Denver Post, Aug. 16, 2022*