



School of Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

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[As pandemic nears its second anniversary, what does ‘herd immunity’ mean now?](#)

Through the first several months of the pandemic, there was hope, to put it mildly, that population-level immunity could halt SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and end the pandemic. **Ross Kedl**, a professor of immunology and biology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine [on the Anschutz Medical Campus], said the concept had worked well against other viruses.

*Denver Gazette, Jan. 24, 2022*



[Colorado confirms 1<sup>st</sup> case of omicron subvariant](#)

“I think the question is – does it change anything or is it just another one out there?” said **Michelle Barron**, senior medical director of infection prevention and control for UCHHealth [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine].

*9News, Jan. 26, 2022*



[ER physician leader: Omicron peaking doesn’t change crisis; Polis comments ‘shocking’](#)

The Colorado Medical Society came out in support of activating the standards this week, as did **Anuj Mehta**, a Denver Health physician and researcher [and assistant professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] who helped rewrite the standards, and **Matt Wynia**, a University of Colorado and Colorado School of Public Health professor and bioethicist.

*Denver Gazette, Jan. 21, 2022*



### [Colorado continues to see high numbers of kids in hospital with COVID-19](#)

“They definitely can get sick. They are getting hospitalized and they are going on ventilators. So it’s not a benign illness to say the least. Majority of kids do really well, but it is affecting our pediatric population,” said **Michael DiStefano**, chief medical officer of Children’s Hospital Colorado in Colorado Springs [and associate professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine].

*KKTV (Colorado Springs), Jan 23, 2022*



### [These Are the Latest COVID Treatments](#)

Yet with most COVID cases in the U.S. currently caused by fast-spreading Omicron, a new coronavirus variant with mutations in the part of SARS-CoV-2 targeted by monoclonals, “there’s only one [antibody] that actually works,” says **Michelle Barron**, a professor of medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and senior medical director of infection prevention and control at the nonprofit health system UHealth.

*Scientific American, Jan. 21, 2022*



### [Do you have ‘super immunity’ after booster, omicron?](#)

“There might be a little bit of truth to that,” National Jewish Health pulmonologist **David Beuther** [associate professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] said. “We’re learning that for at least 90 days there is some immunity against another COVID-19 infection.”

“There is this concept of what’s been called hybrid immunity,” **Jean Kutner**, chief medical officer at UHealth University of Colorado Hospital [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] said. According to Kutner, hybrid immunity is the combination of immunity from vaccination and immunity from infection.



*Fox31, Jan. 20, 2022*



### [Colorado Doctor Encouraging Prospective Parents To Get Vaccinated Following Study](#)

“There’s quite a bit of vaccine hesitancy in women who want to get pregnant. A lot feel their body is a temple, and they don’t want to do anything. Only 31% of women who are pregnant who are vaccinated nationally,” **Nanette Santoro** told CBS4. Santoro is the Professor and Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and a maternal fetal medicine expert.

*CBS4, Jan. 23, 2022*



### [COVID-19 Raises Risk of Myocarditis Heart Condition, But Vaccines Don’t](#)

“There is a 1 in 3,000 risk for myocarditis (MIS-C) in patients with COVID-19,” **Pei-Ni Jone**, cardiologist director of quality in echocardiography and director of Kawasaki Disease Clinic at Children’s Hospital Colorado, and a professor of pediatrics at University of Colorado School of Medicine, told Healthline. “This risk is much higher than 1 in 50,000 to 1 in 100,000 in myocarditis associated with the vaccine.”

*Healthline, Jan. 21, 2022*



### [How to Know When to Use a Rapid Test or PCR Test for COVID-19](#)

“These tests only tell you about one point in time, so a negative test yesterday could be a positive test today,” says **Larissa Pisney**, medical director of infection prevention and control at UHealth [and assistant professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine].

*Real Simple, Jan. 25, 2022*



### [At home rapid COVID tests: how to use them and why they may mislead you if you don't have symptoms](#)

**Richard Zane**, director of emergency services at UCHealth, said he gets asked a few times a week about finding at-home tests and how often his patients should test themselves for COVID-19, especially as the omicron variant rips through the state.

*CPR News, Jan. 21, 2022*



### [Posts falsely claim pneumonia caused by Covid-19 is allergic reaction](#)

**Joshua Solomon**, a pulmonary disease specialist at National Jewish Health [and associate professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine], called the social media posts “unequivocally false,” adding that “histamine and mast cells really have nothing to do with it.” “The thought of antihistamines saving people (from Covid-19) is just not based in reality,” he said.

*AFP Fact Check, Jan. 20, 2022*



### [Protest held at Colorado State Capitol against vaccine mandates](#)

FOX31 spoke with **David Beuther**, a pulmonologist from National Jewish Health [and associate professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine]. He explained the role vaccines play in curbing the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. “The vaccine is really there to protect against the severe disease which is really all we should be caring about,” said Beuther.

*Fox31, Jan. 24, 2022*



### [Rethinking our approach to a pandemic](#)

**Joshua Barocas**, an infectious disease specialist at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, said he's worried only patients with access to hospitals will be able to get Covid therapies, mainly because of testing requirements to get the prescriptions....“We cannot expect vulnerable and sick patients to do everything themselves,” he said.

*Politico, Jan. 24, 2022*



### [Predicting COVID-19 Severity: Researchers Look to Fill Diagnostic Gap, Match Patients with Treatments](#)

In the last couple of years, a lot has been learned about the power of leveraging epigenetics to generate diagnostic, prognostic, and predictive signatures, specifically in methylation, explained **Kathleen C. Barnes**, professor of medicine and epidemiology at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

*Bio-IT World, Jan. 27, 2022*



### [Among young adults, women 44% more likely to have ischemic stroke vs. men](#)

“Our finding suggests that strokes in young adults may be happening for different reasons than strokes in older adults. This emphasizes the importance of doing more studies of stroke in younger age groups so that we can better understand what puts young women at a higher risk of stroke,” **Sharon N. Poisson**, an associate professor of neurology at the University of Colorado, Denver, said in a press release.

*Healio, Jan. 24, 2022*

### [Young Women at Higher Risk for Stroke Than Male Peers: Study](#)

The study cannot pinpoint the reasons for the higher risk among young women, said researcher **Sharon Poisson**, an associate professor of neurology at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. However, she said, pregnancy is one likely contributor: Pregnancy-related conditions, including blood clots, high blood pressure and diabetes, can raise a woman's risk of stroke.

*HealthDay, Jan. 25, 2022*

### [Before Age 35, Women More Vulnerable to Ischemic Stroke Than Men](#)

Senior author **Sharon N. Poisson** (University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora), said this is a “challenging area to study because stroke is just a lot less common in younger adults,” with the result that the demographic can be an “afterthought” in larger studies.



Led by **Michelle H. Leppert** (University of Colorado School of Medicine, Aurora), the researchers searched PubMed for papers published between January 2008 and July 2021. They identified 19 studies (three that had overlapping data) that reported sex-specific information on stroke among young adults.

TCTMD, Jan. 26, 2022



[With young people getting colon cancer at high rates, doctors highlight importance of screening](#)

Researchers from University of Colorado School of Medicine analyzed data from more than 100,000 people with adenocarcinoma, a more aggressive cancer that's more likely to be caught in later stages....“Studying cases of adenocarcinoma alone is important, because those are the ones we're trying to prevent with screening and risk factor identification,” explained study author **Jordan Karlitz**, chief of gastroenterology at Denver Health Medical Center.

ABC News, Jan. 26, 2022

[Increase in distant-stage early colorectal cancer highest among younger age groups](#)

“The results of our manuscript can motivate people to go out and get screened on time at age 45 [years] to prevent the development of cancer altogether and prevent diagnoses of distant-stage disease if cancer is already present,” **Jordan J. Karlitz**, chief of the gastrointestinal division at Denver Health Medical Center and associate professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, told Healio.

Healio, Jan. 26, 2022

[Younger individuals may have the highest risk of presenting with distant-stage colorectal cancer](#)

Understanding the trends and demographics of the rising rates could help improve screening and early detection, explained **Jordan Karlitz**, chief of the Gastrointestinal Division at Denver Health Medical Center and an associate professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Medical Xpress, Jan. 26, 2022



[Colorado Study: Additional Post-Symptom Exercise Cut Concussed Athletes' Risk Of Further Injury](#)

“It is important to understand that a concussion is a brain injury, but it is one that athletes can recover from. However, prior research indicates athletes who are cleared after a concussion have a greater risk of subsequent sports-related injuries such as ACL tears or sprained ankles than those without a concussion,” said [David R. Howell](#), lead researcher at the Sports Medicine Center [and assistant professor of orthopedics at CU School of Medicine].

CBS4, Jan. 23, 2022



[Exposing Kids to Safe Levels of Peanut When Young Might Prevent Allergy](#)

Starting immunotherapy at such a young age “can shorten the gap of how long someone must live with peanut avoidance as their main management style,” said pediatric allergist **Matthew Greenhawt** [professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine], who wrote an [editorial](#) that accompanied results of the clinical trial.

*U.S. News & World Report via HealthDay, Jan. 21, 2022*



[Campaign targets people of color to help end drug addiction disparities](#)

The office reached out to researcher **Daniel Goldberg** with the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus to better understand stigma and how they could diversify their audience. “Stigma is upstream, it’s a structural phenomenon, and it’s driven by the same kinds of things that drive structural inequalities in our society in general,” Goldberg said.

*Fox13 (Salt Lake City), Jan. 25, 2022*



[Children’s Hospital hires first-ever mental health-in-chief after declaring state of emergency](#)

**K. Ron-Li Liaw**, a child psychiatrist with a background in trauma and resiliency, will lead the hospital system as it pivots to include a focus on mental health.

*Colorado Sun, Jan. 26, 2022*

[Children’s Hospital Colorado Appoints Inaugural Mental Health-In-Chief For Children](#)

They appointed their first-ever Mental Health-in-Chief. **K. Ron-Li Liaw** is a child and adolescent psychiatrist with areas of expertise in “trauma and resilience, co-occurring medical and mental health issues and children’s and families’ responses to acute and chronic stress, among others.”

*CBS4, Jan. 26, 2022*

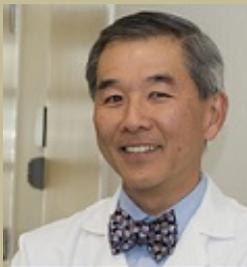


### [Patients and providers have different expectations about access to medical records, study finds](#)

“I think for clinicians, the concern has been that it’s going to cause stress to patients getting these really complex reports that are not written at a level that’s easy for non-medical professionals to understand,” said **Laura Leonard**, Study Primary Author, Chief Resident, Quality and Safety, Department of Surgery, University of Colorado.



“I’ve called patients back within 20 minutes of receiving their results and they’re already down in the fine print,” adds **Sarah Tevis**, a study co-author and an assistant professor of surgical oncology. “As clinicians, we may have just received the results ourselves, so we’re not only going through them for the first time, but trying to help patients know where to focus and to know what these results mean for them.”



UCHealth has been at the forefront of connecting patients with access to their EHI, led in particular by **CT Lin**, a professor of internal medicine in the CU School of Medicine. The access and transparency benefits and empowers patients in their health care, Leonard says, but an area of concern for providers is how to help patients navigate the complex medical terminology and data generally found in lab and test results.

*News-Medical, Jan. 24, 2022*



### [100 healthcare providers snag \\$47M in FCC telehealth funding](#)

The Federal Communications Commission [approved](#) on Jan. 26 an additional 100 applications for funding in its second round of the COVID-19 Telehealth Program, totaling \$47 million. University of Colorado School of Medicine (Aurora) approved to receive \$691,230

*Becker’s Hospital Review, Jan. 26, 2022*