



School of Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

September 2 – 8, 2022

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[University of Colorado's ocular stem cell and regenerative research program recognized](#)

CellSight Director [Valeria Canto-Soler](#), Doni Solich Family Chair in Ocular Stem Cell Research, led the team that won the NEI 3D ROC's disease modeling category, earning \$500,000. [Natalia Vergara](#), director of *CellSight's* Ocular Development and Translational Technologies Laboratory, led the research group that won the drug-screening category, earning \$250,000.



Ophthalmology Times, Sept. 6, 2022



[Health Check](#)

Claudia Hammond hears about the health consequences of a ban on abortion in some US states for young women who develop a breast cancer diagnosis during pregnancy. Professor **Virginia Borges** and Assistant Professor **Nicole Christian** from the University of Colorado explain the difficult decisions women are having to make.

BBC, Sept. 7, 2022





[Arvada woman says UHealth's new robotic transplant procedure saves her life](#)

"We take an incision that's about eight to 10 inches and make that two inches and put that right around the belly button, and that's where the kidney goes in. And the robotic arms are about the size of a pencil," said UHealth transplant surgeon, **Thomas Pshak** [assistant professor of surgery at CU School of Medicine].

Channel 7, Sept. 7, 2022



[A break before a breakdown: Denver student hopes wellness room soothes youth mental health crisis](#)

"We have been experiencing chronic stress across society for the last almost three years now, and chronic stress has a real significant impact and a long-standing impact on our mental health over time," said **Jessica Hawks**, a clinical child and adolescent psychologist and the clinical director of the Pediatric Mental Health Institute at Children's Hospital Colorado [and associate professor of psychiatry at CU School of Medicine].

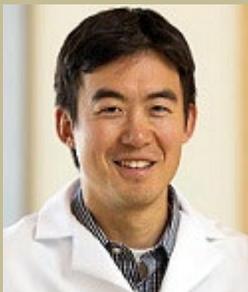
Rocky Mountain PBS, Sept. 6, 2022



[Most People at Risk for Lung Cancer Never Get Screened: Here's How to Fix That](#)

There is no one reason for this gap, according to **Jamie Studts**, a professor of medical oncology at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus School of Medicine. Part of the low rate may be that determining lung cancer screening eligibility can be difficult for overworked primary care providers, unlike other cancer screenings that have simple age-based criteria. The gap may also be related to the stigma and fatalism around lung cancer, as patients often think they will be blamed for having the disease and will not survive anyway.

Scientific American, Sept. 6, 2022



[What is rainbow fentanyl, and what it means for Colorado](#)

Sam Wang, an associate professor of pediatrics [at CU School of Medicine] and toxicologist at Children's Hospital Colorado, said he is worried about kids getting their hands on them. "If young child comes across something that looks like a piece of candy they won't hesitate to eat it," he said. "If it has fentanyl in it, we all know how dangerous fentanyl is. We definitely had deaths in young kids and adolescents from fentanyl ingestions."

9News, Sept. 7, 2022



[Your new COVID boosters questions answered](#)

“This is certainly the greatest invention of our time to be able to produce a vaccine that’s safe and effective this quickly,” said **Larissa Pisney**, an infectious diseases physician at UHealth [and assistant professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine].



Pisney is an infectious disease specialist, and she and **Ross Kedl**, a professor of immunology at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, explained the updated boosters use the original vaccine plus some added proteins to protect against omicron BA.4 and BA.5. “Very little is actually different. All the things that were in them before are in them again,” said Kedl.

Channel 7, Sept. 5, 2022



[What the new booster shot tells us about COVID](#)

Michelle Barron, professor of medicine, CU School of Medicine: “This is what we do with flu every year. For people who say this is weird science we’ve never done this. We do this every year. Every year we look to see lots of different strains of flu circulating. Not just one. When they develop the flu shots, which ones do they think based on predictions and modeling is going to be the one we should include because you are going to get exposed to this.”

9News, Sept. 1, 2022

[New COVID boosters arrive in Colorado](#)

It’s safe to get the new booster and flu shots at the same time, **Michelle Barron**, UHealth’s senior medical director for infection prevention and control, said in a statement. “Think of it as training your immune system in a similar manner to basic training in the military. You may learn to use a weapon and also learn physical combat. They are related but separate types of training meant for your protection,” she explained.

Axios, Sept. 7, 2022



[Children are also suffering from Long COVID. Check these unique symptoms](#)

“There has been a critical need to understand the impact of COVID-19 in children both in the short as well as long-term,” said **Suchitra Rao**, infectious disease specialist at Children’s Hospital Colorado [and associate professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine], US, adding that “This is one of biggest studies we know of to explore what the post-acute sequelae look like in kids.”

Mint, Sept. 8, 2022



[New Colorado research shows pushing back school start times increases sleep for families, teachers](#)

11 News spoke with pediatric sleep psychologist and researcher at National Jewish Health **Lisa Meltzer**, [professor of family medicine at CU School of Medicine] who evaluated new school start times implemented at the Cherry Creek School District near Denver.

KKTV (Colorado Springs), Sept. 7, 2022



[‘September epidemic’ of asthma attacks expected to return after two quiet falls in Colorado](#)

For some people with asthma, viruses that infect the upper respiratory tract may be a trigger, in the same way that pollen, pollution or strenuous exercise can be, said **Carah Santos**, an allergist and immunologist at National Jewish Health in Denver [and assistant professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine].

Channel 7, Sept. 5, 2022



[‘September epidemic’ could make a comeback](#)

9NEWS spoke with National Jewish Health pulmonologist **Anthony Gerber** [professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine] to discuss why we may see the epidemic come back for the first time in three years. “So typically when we talk about ‘September epidemic,’ we’re talking about the return to school viral infections. This has been really different since COVID.”

9News, Sept. 6, 2022



[Infectious disease experts warn of early start to flu season, autumn COVID surge](#)

"This year has the potential to be a bad flu year. A lot of the measures used during the COVID-19 pandemic such as masking and limiting gatherings that helped limit the spread of flu are no longer in place," said **Michelle Barron**, UCHHealth's senior medical director for infection prevention and control. "We also have less immunity to flu since we haven't had the same exposures we normally have from year to year."

9News, Sept. 6, 2022

[Colorado flu season expected to start earlier, be relatively severe after 2 mild years during pandemic](#)

The flu typically starts circulating widely around Thanksgiving in the United States and peaks in December or January, said **Michelle Barron**, senior medical director for infection prevention and control at UCHHealth. If the country follows the pattern set in Australia, that could mean the flu season kicks off in late October or early November, she said.

Denver Post, Sept. 7, 2022

[Influenza set to make an early comeback after 2-year hiatus](#)

"This year has the potential to be a bad flu year," said **Michelle Barron**, senior medical director for infection prevention and control at UCHHealth. "A lot of the measures used during the COVID-19 pandemic such as masking and limiting gatherings that helped limit the spread of flu are no longer in place."

Colorado Springs Gazette, Sept. 6, 2022

['More vulnerable': Northern Colorado health experts warn of coming flu season](#)

"We've gone a couple of years now without having a normal flu season," said **Michelle Barron**, UCHHealth's senior medical director of infection prevention and control [and professor of medicine at CU School of Medicine]. "We don't have immunity like we normally do."

Greeley Tribune, Sept. 1, 2022

[Medical professionals urge people to get new COVID booster, flu shot together](#)

"We're going to see probably the worst year we've seen in a couple years in terms of respiratory viruses," said **Michelle Barron**,

UCHealth's senior medical director for infection prevention and control.

Steamboat Pilot & Today, Sept. 6, 2022



[Polio outbreak unlikely but local experts still worry](#)

Colorado's school and child care immunization data show that 94.86 percent of the state's school-aged children in 2021 were vaccinated against polio. "Which is good news," **Michelle Barron**, senior medical director of infection prevention and control for UCHealth, recently stated on UCHealth's website.

Longmont Leader, Sept. 6, 2022



[What healthcare tech leaders think about the CVS-Signify deal](#)

Richard Zane, Chief Innovation Officer of UCHealth (Aurora, Colo.): As the advent and advancement of technology has made virtual care a reality, I think CVS' acquisition of Signify Health makes sense, just as it makes sense for Optum to acquire LHC Group.

Becker's Hospital Review, Sept. 7, 2022