



January 20, 2022

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## Beyond The Latest COVID Surge....

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### CAMPUS COVID-19 UPDATE



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Dear DFM Family,

The Omicron variant continues to rage in Colorado, but is showing signs of reaching its peak.

Given the current climate and projections, the CU Anschutz Campus has updated its COVID policies, resources, and stance on working on campus.

As of today, students, faculty, and staff are welcome to return to campus beginning Monday, January 24, 2022.

Read the latest guidance on that return, booster vaccines, masking, and more.

Just click the link below for full information.

[Read The Guidance](#)

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Congratulations to Drs. Kent Voorhees, Aimee English, and Shawnecca Burke who were recently named winners in the 2022 Colorado Academy of Family Physicians (CAFP) Awards.

Click the button below to learn more about the honors.

[Read The Story](#)



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Check out this recent article in 5280 Magazine featuring a long list of CU healthcare providers including our own Drs. Corey Lyon and Cleveland Piggott.

It's entitled, *The Complete Guide To Preventative Health Care*.

Click the button below to read the story.

[Read The Story](#)

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# UPDATES

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## Research And Innovation:

Announcing newly funded projects:

### December 2021

REACH-OUT (Research, Engagement and Action on COVID 19 Health Outcomes via Testing)

DFM MPI: Don Nease (MPIs: DeCamp & Manson)

Contact: [DONALD.NEASE@CUANSCHUTZ.EDU](mailto:DONALD.NEASE@CUANSCHUTZ.EDU)

Sponsor: NIH

***If you want to learn more about these projects or get involved, be sure and reach out to the contacts listed.***

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## Published:

Kudos to Linda Zittleman, MSPH, and her impressive team of researchers on their soon-to-be-published paper in the [Annals of Family Medicine](#).

Entitled, *Increasing Capacity for Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in Rural Primary Care Practices*, the paper finds that the IT MATTTRs program - which stand for Implementing Technology and Medication Assisted Treatment Team Training in Rural Colorado – is successfully moving the needle in the treatment of opioid use disorder.



Here is the pre-publication description:

### **Multi-Level Program Enhances Primary Care Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in Rural Colorado**

Researchers studied the implementation of a multilevel program called Implementing Technology and Medication Assisted Treatment Team Training in Rural Colorado (IT MATTTRs). The program included a practice-focused intervention to improve the awareness, adoption and use of buprenorphine to treat opioid dependence and opioid use disorder (OUD). Four hundred and forty-one team members from 42 rural primary care practices in eastern Colorado (High Plains Research Network) and the San Luis Valley (CaReNet) received team training and support. Treatment components that support team-based care as well as clinicians' obtaining the Drug Enforcement Agency waiver needed to prescribe buprenorphine for OUD were assessed before and after training implementation.

Prior to training, practices reported having an average of 4.7 treatment-related components, such as patient consent forms or a urine drug testing protocol in place. Practices reported an average of 13 components at 12 months post-intervention. The proportion of participating practices providing or referring patients for treatment increased from 18.8% to 74.4%, and the number of people with a prescription for buprenorphine in the rural Colorado study region was significantly greater over a four-year period (87%) compared to the rest of the state (65%). IT MATTTRS training for primary care teams in OUD treatment with buprenorphine addresses elements beyond the required clinician

waiver training to make implementation a reality. It effectively increased implementation and treatment delivery in rural Colorado.

Zittleman's project team includes: Jack Westfall, MD, MPH, Kristen Curcija, MPH, Donald Nease, Jr., MD, Jodi Holtrop, PhD, MCHES, Miriam Dickinson, PhD, MA, Christin Sutter, BS, and Fred Thomas, PhD.

The funder for the project was the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

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### Appointed:

DFM's Tamara Oser has accepted an invitation to serve on the Scientific and Medical Oversight Committee of the American Diabetes Association.

"50% of adults with type 1 diabetes and 90% of patients with type 2 diabetes receive their diabetes care through primary care practices. In addition, primary care also cares for most people with prediabetes. Through my work on this committee, I hope to be an advocate and voice for primary care at

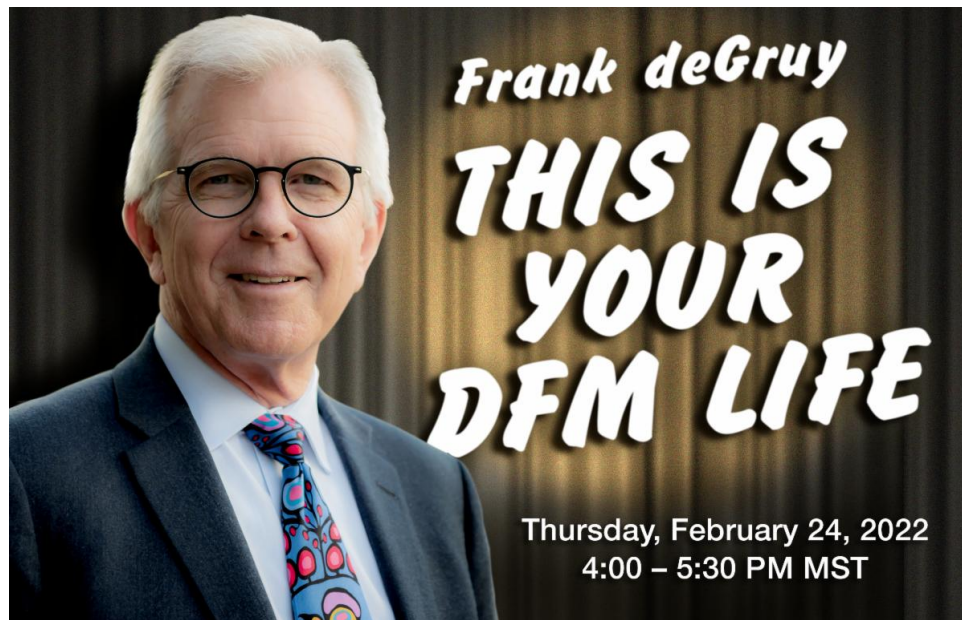
the national level with the American Diabetes Association, and to ensure that their educational and scientific offerings are balanced for primary care as well as sub-specialty audiences," says Oser.

Her term begins immediately and runs through December 2023.

She and husband (and fellow DFM'er) Sean Oser both currently serve on the Youth Strategies Committee of the American Diabetes Committee.

Congratulations!

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### Coming Soon:

Join us on Thursday, February 24, 2022, as we honor our past DFM chair, Dr. Frank deGruy.

This virtual event features a panel of honored guests set to share their stories of and thanks for Frank's years of dedication in service of family medicine.

There will also be an opportunity for you to do the same.

If you haven't already, check your email for the calendar invitation and accept it today.

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## Professional Development Pro Tip!

### Mentoring Matters!

Do you want to be a better mentor? Are you unsure about mentoring someone who is different from you (age, gender, ethnicity, etc.)? Do you have questions about how to handle some common mentoring situations?

The Diversity & Health Equity Mentoring Group is presenting a **new mentoring workshop** on April 12 **OR** April 15 from 1-3 p.m. (you only need to attend one). Check your calendars for the invite that went out a couple of weeks ago.

**Accidentally deleted it and need it resent? Please contact [Tessa Carlson](#) or [Deanna Schroder](#) and they will forward you the appointment.**



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## More Ways to Give Now

Payroll deduction - One-time gift - Planned giving. Showing your support for DFM is easy.

Visit the Endowment page to learn more about the endowment campaign and how you can become involved.

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[Visit The Endowment Page](#)

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Department of  
Family Medicine