Colorado Divide: In rural Colorado, doctors are retiring and dying – and no one is taking their place

Perhaps the greatest hope for curing the shortage is a thin, former country doctor sitting in a cluttered office on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Mark Deutchman, a professor at the CU School of Medicine, runs what is plainly called the school’s Rural Track. The program takes about 20 students per medical school class and prepares them to work in rural settings.

“In a rural setting, you do it all,” said Steven Poole, the physician who oversees the “locum tenens” services for Children’s Hospital Colorado. “You work 150 percent of the hours that somebody in the metro area works.”

Denver Post, Dec. 10, 2017

CHIP funding is latest victim of DC dysfunction

Christopher Stille has been a pediatrician for 24 years and has always known CHIP, so he’s puzzled as to why funding hasn’t been extended by Congress. “Coverage for kids has not been a problem during my entire career,” he said. According to Stille, about a thousand patients who are covered by the program go to Children’s Hospital Colorado to receive care.

CNN, Dec. 7, 2017

Shift work linked to burnout in sleep-deprived nurses

“Burnout syndrome in nurses is associated with decreased patient satisfaction, reduced quality of care, medication errors, higher rates of healthcare related infections and higher mortality rates,” said Meredith Mealer, a researcher at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus and Denver VA Medical Center. “What this study adds to the literature is that there is a direct association between shift work and burnout syndrome.”
Survey: Physicians rate weight-loss medications, surgery less effective than lifestyle in obesity management

“Physicians should understand that reductions in metabolism, as well as neurohormonal changes that increase appetite, tend to occur when patients lose weight,” said Adam Gilden Tsai, clinical lead in adult obesity at the Kaiser Permanente Care Management Institute and associate professor at the CU School of Medicine. “Thus, when patients regain their weight, is not just behavior alone.”

Healio, Dec. 11, 2017

High-intensity treadmill workouts preserved motor function in early-state Parkinson’s

“A larger efficacy trial is warranted to determine whether exercising at 80%-85% maximum heart rate produces meaningful clinical benefits in de novo Parkinson disease,” wrote Margaret Schenkman, a physical therapist at CU, and her colleagues. “Meanwhile, clinicians may safely prescribe exercise at this intensity level for this population.”

PM360, Dec. 11, 2017

Exercise May Aid Parkinson’s Disease, but Make It Intense

If people with early Parkinson’s could brake the disease’s advance and delay their need to start medications, the researchers have reasoned, they might change the arc of their disease, delaying its most severe effects. That possibility recently led a consortium of researchers from Northwestern University, the CU Anschutz Medical Campus and other institutions to look at exercise as a treatment.


Flu hospitalizations rise as UCHealth implements annual restrictions

“The absolute best way to protect yourself and others from the flu is to get vaccinated,” said Jean Kutner, chief medical officer at UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital.

Loveland Reporter-Herald, Dec. 1, 2017
UCHealth acquires 2 hospitals, 17 freestanding emergency rooms

UCHealth has acquired 17 freestanding emergency rooms and two hospitals it operated in partnership with Lewisville, Texas-based Adeptus Health.

*Becker's Hospital Review, Dec. 11, 2017*