Colorado Medical Research Worries About Proposed NIH Budget Cuts

“We were shocked,” said Kathleen Barnes, who leads the Colorado Center for Personalized Medicine at CU Anschutz Medical Campus. “In my almost 25 years of NIH-funded research in academic medicine, we’ve never experienced a threat this great to the NIH.” CU’s School of Medicine, where Barnes works, gets about $200 million a year in NIH funding, so a 20 percent drop could make $40 million vanish. Barnes points out that there’s “no historical precedent for a drop that drastic in the NIH budget.”

Last November, Namourou Konate had a big scare when he lost his vision and ability to speak. His emergency room arrival coincided with an NIH funded study looking at high blood pressure. Konate allowed researchers to map his genotype. That led his doctors to switch medications, which has made a big difference. Andrew Monte, one of Barnes’ fellow researchers, said they learned Konate’s cells have high levels of an enzyme that responds to one drug much better than another. He suggests that this information made a difference in his life because they are “able to actually treat his blood pressure more effectively knowing his genotype.”

Colorado Public Radio, March 29, 2017

Woman Who Nearly Lost Leg With Rare Condition Stops By To Say Thanks

“We didn’t know if we were going to end up with an amputation or any muscle loss,” said Mark Hammerberg, an orthopedic surgeon at Denver Health. Hammerberg admits he was surprised to see La Bonte-Jones recover so quickly and walking again on Thursday when she visited him for the first time since leaving the hospital.

CBS4, March 28, 2017
### Avoiding All Nuts Simply Because You’re Allergic To One Might Be, Well, Nutty

“This has been an area where there’s been no clarity for a long time,” said Matthew Greenhawt, who chairs the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Food Allergy Committee and co-directs the Children’s Hospital Colorado Food Challenge Unit. His coauthor of a study about nut allergies published online Monday.

*Forbes, March 28, 2017*

### EPA sidestepped decision to tighten standards for lead levels, leaving communities adrift

“The lower the blood lead, the better,” said Michael Kosnett, who served on a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advisory panel on lead poisoning and a member of the clinical faculty at the University of Colorado.

*STAT, March 28, 2017*

### The Public Health Approach to Addressing Gun Violence

“We are a piece of the solution. We are not the cure-all, and we can’t do this alone. ... [Physicians] can and need to play a more active role in how they talk with patients,” said Marian Betz, associate professor of emergency medicine at the CU School of Medicine.

*Hospitals & Health Networks, March 28, 2017*

### Aurora takes big steps forward in education

Friends Yishak Bedaso, who moved to Colorado from Ethiopia in March 2010, and Jesus Dorado Madera, a first-generation Mexican-American, were among just 10 students statewide accepted into the CU Denver and Anschutz Medical Campus’s BA/BS-MD program, which enables students to earn a reserved spot in the School of Medicine.

*Denver Business Journal, March 24, 2017*
A private collection of work by several of the greatest names in European art is about to go on display in an unusual setting: A medical campus. Works by Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Auguste Rodin, Henri Matisse and others will be on display starting Friday at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

*Denver Business Journal, March 29, 2017*