Edibles lead to inordinately high number of emergency visits, study finds

Researchers from the CU School of Medicine analyzed health records for 9,973 patients and found a threefold jump in emergency visits to UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital and the Anschutz Medical Campus from 2012 to 2016. The research suggests that edibles have a slower rate of absorption than inhaled marijuana, according to Andrew Monte, lead clinical researcher, associate professor of emergency medicine at the CU School of Medicine and emergency medicine physician and medical toxicologist at UCHealth.

9News, March 25, 2019

Marijuana hospital visits are more serious for edible users than smokers, study shows

“Part of the issue (with edibles) is that the onset is delayed and the peak effect is delayed,” meaning some people can stack doses when they don’t feel the effects right away, said Andrew Monte, an associate professor of emergency medicine at CU’s School of Medicine. “This was a concerning finding, in that there were many more acute psychiatric visits.”

Denver Post, March 25, 2019

ER visits linked to marijuana rose at Colorado hospital after legalization, study finds

“About 10 percent of cannabis-related ED visits were associated with edible forms of weeds, but only 0.32 percent of total cannabis sales were for edible products. That’s 33 times higher than what we expected,” said Andrew Monte, lead author of the study and associate professor of emergency medicine and emergency toxicology at the CU School of Medicine.

NBC News, March 25, 2019
Cannabis-related ER visits in Colorado jump threefold after legalization, study says

“We observed a higher number of visits attributable to edibles than expected, and there was no data to determine if this was indeed true,” said Andrew A. Monte, a medical toxicologist and emergency medicine physician at UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital.

“Edible marijuana can be a lot different. The effect can last a lot longer,” said G. Sam Wang, a pediatric emergency medicine physician and toxicologist at Children’s Hospital Colorado, who was not involved in the new study.

CNN, March 25, 2019

The Measles Emergency: What Are Religious Exemptions?

In Colorado, Joshua Williams, an assistant professor of pediatrics at the CU School of Medicine, has recommended that the groups talk at specific times, such as when the academic year begins or at the start of influenza season, and not just during a health crisis. He is also working with the state’s Council of Churches to hold sessions with parishioners to hear their concerns. “Religious vaccinations exemptions impact public health,” Williams said. “There is a need to dialogue with religious leaders around vaccine exemptions at local and national levels.”

The New York Times, March 27, 2019

First Drug For Postpartum Depression Comes With Drawbacks

“I think any kind of condition that only affects women often doesn’t quite get the attention of the medical field that it should,” said Neill Epperson, Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at CU School of Medicine on the Anschutz Medical Campus. Epperson was an investigator on the study of Zulresso and is an expert in women’s behavioral health.

CBS4, March 26, 2019

Pregnant Women Can Prevent Brain Problems To Affect Their Baby

Choline, a vital Vitamin B nutrient, can prevent the child from developing fetal brain problems. As noted by the professor of psychiatry for the CU School of Medicine Robert Freedman, “We found that higher levels of choline prevent fetal brain problems from developing, even when the mother is infected. Choline supplements in pregnancy can have a lifelong benefit for the infant.”
| Source                                   | Title                                                                 | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Babygaga, March 23, 2019                 | Antipsychotics may be ineffective for delirium, may increase severity | “Antipsychotics, despite the way we were trained, don’t actually appear to treat the pathophysiology of delirium,” Ethan Cumbler, of the University of Colorado Hospital and the CU School of Medicine, said in a presentation at Hospital Medicine 2019.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Healio, March 27, 2019                   | Doctors aren’t offering cholesterol drugs to all eligible patients    | Because the study was based on a survey, it’s possible some patients said their doctors never discussed statins because they forgot these conversations and not because the drugs weren’t recommended, Robert Eckel, a researcher at the CU School of Medicine, said.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| WHTC (Detroit) via Reuters Health, March 28, 2019 | Want to Stay Trim? Don’t Eat in the Evening, Study Finds             | “We evaluated meal and sleep timing in patients with overweight/obesity at the beginning of a weight loss trial, before participants started the intervention,” said lead author Adnin Zaman, an endocrinology fellow at the CU School of Medicine.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Doctors Lounge, March 23, 2019           | A Clinic for Whatever Ails Your Foot or Ankle                         | An ambulance brought Jamie Snyder to the Emergency Department at UCHHealth University of Colorado Hospital, where doctors diagnosed her with an unstable ankle and a fractured fibula (outer calf bone). Once the swelling receded, Daniel Moon, a Stapleton parent, [assistant professor of orthopedics,] and specialist in foot and ankle orthopedics, performed surgery.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
### HABRI Research Shows Therapy Dogs Benefit Children with Autism

“Individuals with autism spectrum disorder have difficulties with communication and socialization skills, and often experience difficulties with emotion dysregulation, which can lead to more intensive intervention services such as psychiatric hospitalization,” said Monique Germone, at University of Colorado and Children’s Hospital Colorado.

Dr. Germone, along with study’s principal investigator Robin Gabriels, professor of psychiatry at the CU School of Medicine, recruited participants ages 4-17 years old from the inpatient and partial hospitalization unit of a specialized psychiatric unit for pediatric patients with ASD.

*Pet Product News, March 27, 2019*

### What the $30.5 billion Colorado state budget means for you – yes, you

More than $256 million in new spending would go toward construction and building projects on state property. The biggest ticket item listed is another $31.3 million for the construction of the Center of Personalized Medicine and Behavioral Health at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus.

*Colorado Sun, March 26, 2019*

### World Down Syndrome Day: Celebrate with Colorado!

Joaquin Espinosa, executive director at Linda Crnic Institute for Down Syndrome at the CU School of Medicine: “We want promote inclusion of people with Down syndrome in the work force, in all aspects of society, more acceptance of people with different abilities in our society, and we want to stop all types of discriminatory activities against people with a different genetic make-up.”

*Fox31, March 21, 2019*