Children’s Hospital Colorado preparing 25 new cancer trials after “breakthrough” law signed

Doctors at Children’s Hospital Colorado hope to launch as many as 25 new clinical trials in the next six months after a recently signed federal law opened the floodgates to test experimental cancer drugs for children. “The pediatric oncology community is really excited,” said Lia Gore, the director of Children’s Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders.

The celebration highlighted a daylong tour by U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet and new FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb that also included a meeting at the University of Colorado Hospital where doctors explained new emergency department procedures for reducing opioid prescriptions. “Our answer,” said Jason Hoppe, an emergency medicine specialist at the hospital, “has been exposing fewer people.”

*Denver Post, Aug. 22, 2017*

Many heart failure patients don’t recognize the risks of their illness

“Part of this is that hope is human nature - patients think they will beat the odds,” said lead study author Amrut Ambardkar, medical director of the cardiac transplant program at CU in Aurora.

*Reuters, Aug. 23, 2017*
American surgeons poorly prepared for humanitarian operations

A Haitian physician taught American-trained vascular surgeon David Kuwayama how to perform C-sections in a Caribbean clinic, and a Congolese surgeon taught him other basic surgical procedures in an African war zone. “It is the norm - not the exception - that when we go abroad, the non-American surgeons are teaching the American surgeons how to do numerous things,” said Kuwayama, a CU professor.

*Reuters, Aug. 21, 2017*

Social media’s impact on eating disorders

Doctors said another sign is extreme or unhealthy amounts of exercise or dramatic shifts in behavior. “They can be more anxious or more depressed or have more outbursts,” said Margherita Mascolo, Executive Director of ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders at Denver Health.

“Checking in especially with teenagers or kids with smartphones about what sites do you like, how are you using them, how do they make you feel using them, those are really good conversations to have,” said Jennifer Hagman, Medical Director of the Eating Disorders Program at Children’s Hospital Colorado.

*7News, Aug. 15, 2017*

Researchers move closer to peanut allergy cure

“The broader context of what these findings potentially represent is a demonstration of true tolerance, whereby patients could mimic the eating habits of non-allergic individuals,” wrote Matthew Greenhawt of the department of pediatrics at the CU School of Medicine.

*CBS News, Aug. 23, 2017*
**Going Gluten-free? A Few Caveats for Kids**

Edwin Liu, director of the Colorado Center for Celiac Disease at Children’s Hospital Colorado, says: “People think a gluten-free diet is inherently healthy. But it’s only healthy if you make it healthy.”

*U.S. News & World Report, Aug. 14, 2017*

**Change in routine could make asthma worse**

William Anderson, assistant professor of pediatrics at CU School of Medicine and co-director of the Multidisciplinary Asthma Program at Children’s Hospital Colorado: “We see in September of most years there’s an increase in asthma exacerbations and unscheduled visits to the emergency room or doctor’s office for kids with asthma.”

*9News, Aug. 23, 2017*

**Women should have annual mammograms starting at age 40, study says**

“Screening annually starting at age 40 is the best strategy to avert an early breast cancer death,” said study co-author R. Edward Hendrick, a radiology professor at the CU School of Medicine.

*UPI, Aug. 21, 2017*

**Cancer Onset May Be Caused by Immune System Fighting Viruses**

“We know that the majority of cancers are caused by genetic mutations,” explained senior study investigator Dohun Pyeon, associate professor in the department of immunology and microbiology at the CU School of Medicine.

*Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News, Aug. 24, 2017*
Focus on Cancer During Medical School

“The mentor that I worked with had a really strong bedside manner, she had a real strong interest in patient care and developing really strong bonds, and I’d say that’s probably the thing that drew me to oncology,” says Saketh Guntupalli, an associate professor of gynecology and obstetrics at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus and its affiliated hospital system, UCHealth.

“Individuals who have had some exposure to how research works will have a little bit better handle on processing the flood of information that’s going to be coming out,” says Brian Kavanagh, a professor of radiation oncology and chairman of the radiation oncology department at the University of Colorado, who in addition to his academic position is also president of the American Society for Radiation Oncology.

U.S. News & World Report, Aug. 24, 2017

With investment from Colorado, Smart Choice MRI to expand beyond the Midwest

Smart Choice MRI, known for providing scans for $600 or less, has drawn its third investment, this one from UCHealth, a health system that includes University of Colorado Hospital. The company plans to open four imaging centers in the Denver area.

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, Aug. 23, 2017

Virtual Reality for the Treatment of PTSD

According to Dawn Jewell, a psychologist based in Greeley, she was approached about using the new therapy tool by a friend who was working with the National Behavioral Health Innovation Center at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus and jumped at the opportunity.

R&D Magazine, Aug. 21, 2017