



DENVER HEALTH'S WEEKLY 411

The week's most critical information delivered to your inbox.

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Paramedics receive 10 new ambulances



Ten new ambulances will begin serving the Denver community this month. On Wednesday, **Denver Health CEO Donna Lynne** and **Chief Paramedic Gary Bryskiewicz** were joined by Mayor Mike Johnston and Denver Health patient Jessica Barclay and her husband, Colin, to showcase the largest addition of new ambulances to join the Denver Health Paramedic Division fleet at one time.

[Read more](#)

STAY INFORMED

Code pink drill next Wednesday

Denver Health Emergency Management will facilitate a "code pink" missing infant drill on **Wednesday, Jan. 17**. The [code pink policy](#) outlines actions to be taken to prevent infant abductions, locate a missing infant as quickly as possible and reunite a missing infant with family. This drill will also test the new infant security system in Pavilion C. All communications related to the drill, including overhead paging, will include the phrase "this is a drill," but all units in pavilions A, B and C are expected to respond as they would to a real event. Every hospital employee is responsible for following and enforcing code pink procedures, and all staff are expected to have knowledge of this vital policy. Please use this opportunity to build muscle memory and practice your response actions.

Denver Health priorities among top issues with lawmakers

Colorado lawmakers return to the state Capitol this week for the 2024 legislative session, and Denver Health is tracking some key health care issues. **Chief Government and Community Affairs Officer Steve Federico, MD**, and **Director of Government Relations Katie Ryan** will work on behalf of our health system to ensure Denver Health priorities are being discussed.

[Learn more](#)

Show your support for health care workers with free yard signs

Denver Health is proud of the amazing care that is provided by our health care workers, and we want to help you show your health care worker pride as well. Simply drop by the Marketing and Communications department on the **ninth floor of 601 Broadway** and we'll give you a free "I Support Our Health Care Workers" yard sign. Available while supplies last!



Dependable Cleaners makes donation to STAR team

The STAR team responders from Denver Health and WellPower are thankful for a very generous coat donation from Dependable Cleaners that will help provide warmth and cold-weather protection to people in need this season. STAR is an alternative response team dispatched through Denver 911 that sends a Denver Health paramedic or EMT and WellPower clinician to low-risk, low-acuity crisis calls in the community.



5280 Top Docs selection kicks off next week

Denver Health physicians are consistently recognized as Top Docs in the Denver metro area as acknowledged by 5280 Magazine. The nomination period for the 2024 Top Docs starts Monday, Jan. 15, and ends Feb. 15.

5280 is once again collaborating with Castle Connolly, a health care research and information firm, to compile its annual list of Top Doctors. **To participate, physicians are required to complete the online registration process at nominations.castleconnolly.com**. During this process, nominating physicians will need to provide their **first and last name, email address and specialty**. In addition, they will need to provide their personal NPI number. If you have forgotten your NPI number, you can search for it [here](#).

The Denver Health Medical Staff Office will be soliciting nominations from each department that you may opt to support in your nomination. Further details and updates will be communicated by them, so please be on the lookout. When selecting nominations for Top Docs, each physician can nominate up to 15 colleagues within their own specialty, seven in the categories of Family Medicine, Internal Medicine and Pediatrics, and five in each of the remaining specialties. Search for physicians by their names rather than their areas of practice when making nominations.

The 5280 Top Doctors list for 2024 is scheduled to be featured in the magazine's August issue.

RECOGNIZING YOU

Golden Hourglass awards presented to perioperative staff

Congratulations to the 10 winners of the Golden Hourglass awards, presented by the Perioperative Services Steering Committee (PSSC). These awards were presented to surgeons with the highest percentage of case length accuracy (CLA) and to nursing and anesthesia staff with the highest first case on-time starts (FCOTS), tracked from July 1 to Dec. 1. Both criteria are widely recognized as critical to OR efficiency.



[See winners](#)

PERKS & DISCOUNTS

Enter drawing to win free massage from RESTORE on Jan. 16

The Denver Health RESTORE Support Center, on the first floor of Pavilion B, will offer Denver Health staff free 15-minute chair massages with a Zeel massage therapist from **noon-4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16**. [Click here to enter a drawing](#) for your chance to win a massage. Winners will be contacted by email on **Sunday, Jan. 14**, and offered time slots. Names on the sign-up list and the winners will be kept confidential. Email questions to RESTORE@dhha.org.



GRATITUDE

La Casa-Quigg Newton receives praise for excellent care and support

It is incredibly rewarding to hear from patients who have received outstanding care at Denver Health. This week we would like to share a five-star online review of our incredible team at La Casa-Quigg Newton Family Health Center.

"La Casa-Quigg Newton provides the best health care support. Dr. Askenazi and his team are awesome health care providers. Always friendly and professional."

We encourage staff to ask patients to leave a positive review online, as a higher rating helps build trust in our community. Every star counts!

IN THE NEWS

The 411 highlights top stories of the week. Please visit [In the News on the Pulse](#) for a rundown of all recent stories featuring Denver Health.

Uncompensated medical costs impacting care at Denver Health

Jan. 9, 9News

Concerns continue to amplify surrounding the future of Colorado's only safety net hospital, which provides care to patients who can't pay. **Donna Lynne, CEO of Denver Health**, shared their governance meeting with Denver city and Denver Health Tuesday, and Denver Health's board and governing committee meeting. "Denver Health is at a critical, critical point," Lynne told committee members.

New research shows the number of injuries from scooters tripled

Jan. 9, Fox31

Doctors at Denver Health's emergency department say they see multiple patients every day with electric scooter-related injuries. "The level of danger from them is way higher than people expect," **Dr. Spencer Tomberg** said. He said many of the patients come in late at night after the rider has had some alcohol. "They can have really devastating injuries, and so I think the mix of alcohol and scooters is extremely dangerous," Tomberg said.

Opioids more powerful than fentanyl emerging in Colorado

Jan. 4, Street Gazette

The street name for nitazene is ISO or Pyro, according to **Dr. Christopher Hoyte, medical director of the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center**. Nitazene use is not an epidemic, but drug experts like Hoyte are keeping an eye on it, much like they did when fentanyl first started showing up. "I hope this doesn't become anything near what fentanyl has become because it's more potent," said Hoyte.

National awareness and recognitions

Jan. 15, is **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** and Jan. 21-27, is **National CRNA Week**. Is there a department that you'd like us to recognize during a special week or month? Let us know in an [Employee Outreach Request form](#) and we'll spotlight them in the 411.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January | February

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| Jan. 15: MLK Parade | Jan. 31: Department impact plan submission deadline |
| Jan. 16: RESTORE free massage | Jan. 31: Food and Nutrition Services survey deadline |
| Jan. 17: Code pink drill on campus | Feb. 2: Walk-in screening Mammogram day |
| Jan. 17: Trauma lecture series: Optimizing REBOA | Feb. 8: On-campus Fidelity planner |
| Jan. 17: TRMS lounge open house | Feb. 9: 2024 State of Research at Denver Health |
| Jan. 18: Trauma-responsive workshop | Feb. 13: Fidelity webinar for retirement savings |
| Jan. 19: Walk-in mammogram day | Feb. 16: Walk-in mammogram day |
| Jan 26: Maximizing Outputs from Academic Efforts | Feb. 20: On-campus Fidelity planner |
| Jan. 30: On-campus Fidelity planner | Feb. 22: Trauma-responsive workshop |

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Denver Health VALUES how we do it.	RESPECT	BELONGING	TRANSPARENCY	ACCOUNTABILITY
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SUBMIT A REQUEST TO THE WEEKLY 411 Submit content for consideration in the Weekly 411 through the employee outreach request form [here](#). Accuracy and quality matter, so please provide all material as early as possible. Your submission should detail who, what, when, where, why and how, with correct spelling and explanation of acronyms. We encourage you to include photos and any links or attachments that may help to communicate your message. Content received after noon on Tuesday will be considered for the following week's edition.

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