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Top News





Record Covid-19 Hospitalizations Strain System Again

Wall Street Journal · Melanie Evans · Nov 11, 2020

Hospitals across the nation face an even bigger capacity problem from the resurgent spread of Covid-19 than they did during the virus's earlier surges this year, pandemic preparedness experts said, as the number of U.S. hospitalizations hit a new high Wednesday.



Related Coverage:

As coronavirus soars, hospitals hope to avoid an agonizing choice: Who gets care and who goes home
 Washington Post

U.S. prepares for worst four months of the pandemic as it stares down the 'darkest' days yet

CNBC · Will Feuer, Berkeley Lovelace Jr. and Noah Higgins-Dunn · Nov 11, 2020

Epidemiologists, scientists and public health officials are warning that the United States has yet to see the most difficult days of the coronavirus outbreak. "We have not even come close to the peak and, as such, our hospitals are now being overrun," Dr. Michael Osterholm, a member of President-elect Joe Biden's Covid task force, said.



Asymptomatic Covid-19 Cases Show Need for Wider Surveillance Testing, Study Suggests

Wall Street Journal · Sarah Toy · Nov 11, 2020

A study of Covid-19 testing among nearly 2,000 young adults found symptom monitoring missed nearly all cases of infection, suggesting regular, widespread surveillance testing is needed for both asymptomatic and symptomatic people to get the coronavirus crisis under control.



Women Doctors Are Less Likely to Perform C-Sections

New York Times · Nicholas Bakalar · Nov 11, 2020

Female obstetricians are less likely than their male colleagues to perform cesarean sections, a review of studies has found.



Clinical Informatics

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VA Turns to Machine Learning to Automate Prescription Workflows

Nextgov · Brandi Vincent · Nov 11, 2020

One of the agency's senior innovation-focused officials also shed light on how additive manufacturing might disrupt modern health care.



How Cleveland Clinic Used EHR Data for a COVID-19 Risk Assessment

EHRIntelligence · Christopher Jason · Nov 11, 2020

The Cleveland Clinic partnered with Epic Systems to integrate its COVID-19 risk predictor into its patient portal.



Cerner taps Well Health to improve patient messaging as digital adoption ramps up during COVID-19

Fierce Healthcare · Heather Landi · Nov 11, 2020

Health IT giant Cerner is collaborating with startup Well Health to improve how clinicians communicate with patients. The aim is to make communicating with doctors and care teams as easy as texting a friend, according to Well Health CEO and founder Guillaume de Zwirek.



Google Cloud unveils Al tools to help healthcare analyze unstructured medical text

MobiHealthNews · Dave Muoio · Nov 11, 2020

Google Cloud pulled back the curtain yesterday on two artificial intelligence tools designed to help healthcare and life science organizations scan and analyze large volumes of unstructured text, the Healthcare Natural Language API and AutoML Entity Extraction for Healthcare.



HIStalk Daily Headlines 11/12/20

HIStalk · Nov 12, 2020

Morning headlines from HIStalk



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- Weaving Zoom into workflow and updating EHR saves clinic during COVID-19
 Healthcare IT News
- OIG: eClinicalWorks Needs Further Compliance for Patient Safety EHRIntelligence

Bioinformatics & Data Science

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Microbes' mystery DNA helps defeat viruses—and has genome-editing potential

Science Magazine · Elizabeth Pennisi · Nov 11, 2020

Seven years ago, an understanding of nature inspired a revolutionary new technology, when researchers turned a defense system used by bacteria to thwart viruses into the gene-editing tool now known as CRISPR.



Mutant coronaviruses found in mink spark massive culls and doom a Danish group's research

Science Magazine · Christa Lesté-Lasserre · Nov 11, 2020

Jens Malmkvist's life's work came to a dramatic end this week. An ethologist at Aarhus University, Malmkvist studies the behavior and welfare of farmed mink, with the aim of giving them a better life as they are raised for fur.



Moving Beyond Precision Oncology to "Precision Prevention" in Oncology Practices

American Journal of Managed Care · Christina Mattina · Nov 11, 2020

In a pair of sessions at the Quality Cancer Care Alliance Virtual Fall Leadership Summit, speakers discussed the promise of precision medicine for not only informing individuals' cancer treatment decisions but also identifying individuals at high risk before disease develops.



How Organizations Can Integrate Precision Medicine with Clinical Care

HealthITAnalytics · Jessica Kent · Nov 11, 2020

While the promises of precision medicine in healthcare are seemingly boundless, the industry has had to overcome several challenges to integrating these approaches with everyday clinical care.



Leprosy, ancient scourge of humans, found to assail wild chimpanzees

Science Magazine · Kai Kupferschmidt · Nov 11, 2020

Conservation scientist Kimberley Hockings was worried. In 2017, photos from camera traps in Guinea-Bissau's Cantanhez National Park, where she works, revealed several chimpanzees with terrible lesions on their faces.



Population Health

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Amazon Alexa Care Hub update will make it easier to help aging family members

CNBC · Christina Farr · Nov 11, 2020

More seniors than ever are choosing to remain at home and live independently. Amazon wants to make it easier for caregivers to check in on their aging relatives. It has a new feature called "Care Hub" to help provide some peace of mind to family members.



Now's the Time to Sign Up for Health Insurance. Here's How.

New York Times · Margot Sanger-Katz · Nov 11, 2020

It's open enrollment season for the Affordable Care Act. Anyone who needs insurance for next year can pick a plan now.



India's Covid-19 Cases Have Plummeted. Many Fear a New Wave.

New York Times \cdot Jeffrey Gettleman, Emily Schmall, Suhasini Raj and Sameer Yasir \cdot Nov 11, 2020

While some hope the worst might be over, lapsed vigilance, cold weather and the festival season could spark a resurgence.



Social Media Highlights





Women in AMIA (WIA) Networking, Mentoring, & Lifecycle Committee invites you to take a brief survey. This survey will help us find resources to support women in informatics, connect them to resources, & learn the impact of COVID on women in informatics. https://t.co/yf4c84fMkr

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Nov 11, 2020



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Register now for the Winter 2020 @OHSUInformatics 10x10 course Introduction to Biomedical and Health Informatics starting December 9. CME available. AMIA members save over \$350 on the 10x10 registration fee! Register today & secure your virtual seat! https://t.co/lr4UwYbKUM



Scott Gottlieb, MD

@ScottGottliebMD



Covid hospitalizations are rising quickly. We need to start discussions about how we preserve health system capacity given the velocity of this growth in hospital and ICU admissions, and the fact that it will be harder to backstop hospitals given how distributed the epidemic is. https://t.co/euz1iWFkdq



Eric Topol

@EricTopol



Now it's trending on twitter https://t.co/KqFakZVcuf A multi-dimensional real time dashboard (including this layer and several others) should be available to everyone in the US just like air quality or weather.



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