

Top News



After a Sluggish Start, Vaccine Rollout Is Improving in Every State

New York Times · Lauren Leatherby and Amy Schoenfeld Walker · Feb 12, 2021

The slow start to the Covid-19 vaccine rollout in the United States has been no secret: Seniors have waited in long lines for a dose, vaccine registration websites have crashed and public health resources were tied up during the country's biggest surge yet in early January.



Major Hospitals Form Company to Capitalize on Their Troves of Health Data

Wall Street Journal · Anna Wilde Mathews · Feb 11, 2021

A group of major hospital systems is launching a company to pull together and sell access to anonymized data on their millions of patients for uses including research and drug development.



How Much Does a C-Section Cost? At One Hospital, Anywhere From \$6,241 to \$60,584.

Wall Street Journal · Anna Wilde Mathews, Tom McGinty and Melanie Evans · Feb 11, 2021

New federally mandated disclosures by California's Sutter Health illustrate the wide disparity in healthcare rates negotiated by insurers.



As Millions Get Shots, F.D.A. Struggles to Get Safety Monitoring System Running

New York Times · Sheila Kaplan · Feb 12, 2021

For now, the government has been relying on a patchwork of programs that officials say are hampered by limited size and gaps in data collection.



Clinical Informatics



KLAS Ranks EHR Clinical Documentation Improvement Tools, Vendors

EHRIntelligence · Christopher Jason · Feb 11, 2021

Healthcare organizations with EHR clinical documentation improvement tools ranked Iodine and ChartWise as the clear vendors of choice.



EHR Multitasking Causes and How to Improve Clinician Burnout

EHRIntelligence · Christopher Jason · Feb 11, 2021

EHR usability, patient data overload, and patient and provider communication behavior are some of the top EHR multitasking practices that result in clinician burnout.



GAO tells VA to stop rollout of \$16B EHR program for more testing, or risk failure

FedScoop · Jackson Barnett · Feb 11, 2021

The Government Accountability Office has recommended that the Department of Veterans Affairs stop work on its new electronic health record (EHR) modernization program to conduct “critical” tests before launching at any more medical centers.



HIStalk Daily Headlines 2/12/21

HIStalk · Feb 12, 2021

Morning headlines from HIStalk



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Becker's Hospital Review
- **Cincinnati Children's puts focus on patient experience with its telehealth program**
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- **Zocdoc, staking its future on the promise of hybrid care, raises \$150 million**
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Tiny Blobs of Brain Cells Could Reveal How Your Mind Differs from a Neanderthal's

New York Times · Carl Zimmer · Feb 11, 2021

Researchers grew clusters of brain cells in the lab with a gene carried by our ancient ancestors.



Related Coverage:

- **Studying Neanderthal mini-brains, scientists unlock clues to modern human evolution**
STAT

Scientists turn to machine learning to tackle one of gene therapy's biggest challenges

STAT+ · Katie Palmer · Feb 11, 2021

As the world charges to vaccinate the population against the coronavirus, gene therapy developers are locked in a counterintuitive race. Instead of training the immune system to recognize and combat a virus, they're trying to do the opposite: designing viruses the body has never seen, and can't fight back against.



Precision Medicine Platform Aims to Advance Cancer Gene Therapies

HealthITAnalytics · Jessica Kent · Feb 11, 2021

A team from Cleveland Clinic has developed a precision medicine platform designed to accelerate cancer gene therapies and genome-informed drug discovery.



Drugmakers Look for New Ways to Test Covid-19 Vaccines

Wall Street Journal · Peter Loftus · Feb 11, 2021

Researchers aim to measure how much immune response a shot triggers—potentially useful for assessing new shots and new uses.



Population Health



Biden says U.S. will have enough vaccine for 300 million people by end of July

Washington Post · Isaac Stanley-Becker, Lena H. Sun and Laurie McGinley · Feb 12, 2021

President Biden said Thursday that his administration had finalized deals for another 200 million doses of the two coronavirus vaccines authorized in the United States, giving the country enough vaccine by the end of July to cover every American adult.



Related Coverage:

- With More Vaccines Secured, Biden Warns of Hurdles to Come
New York Times

Covid Vaccines for Kids Are Coming, but Not for Many Months

New York Times · Apoorva Mandavilli · Feb 12, 2021

Pfizer and Moderna are testing their vaccines on children 12 and older and hope to have results by the summer.



Social Media Highlights



AMIA

@AMIAinformatics



Join the AMIA Consumer and Public Health Informatics Working Group for a webinar with speaker @shefali_h. She will discuss the use and impact of an online community for hospital patients. February 22, 12-1 pm EST. Bookmark this link! <https://t.co/7s0dSH7jkq>

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Feb 11, 2021



Eric Topol

@EricTopol



What a good covid day in the US looks like —2 million people got vaccinated; rate nearly doubled in 3 wks —a large drug trial finds significant improved survival (IL-6 blocker) —200 million more vaccines secured

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Feb 12, 2021



Apoorva Mandavilli

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BREAKING: Many experts suspected this was true even then, but when hospitalized with with Covid in October, Trump's blood oxygen levels had plunged and officials feared he was on the verge of being placed on a ventilator.
<https://t.co/UVGKTyqwAd>

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