

Health News E Clips

An electronic healthcare news link service provided by the Utah Hospital Association
Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Utah Healthcare Headlines

[Utah House GOP reaches compromise on autism coverage](#) (Salt Lake Tribune, February 15, 2012) A deal struck after weeks of negotiations among House Republican leaders could extend coverage for treatment of about 800 children with autism, but would stop short of a more sweeping and contentious mandate.

[Powerful Utah health care tool just a click away](#) (Ogden Standard Examiner, February 20, 2012) Quick: What are those oblong yellow pills you take? What dosage? Are your children's shots up to date?

[European pancreatic cancer study to use Utah company's hyperthermia system](#) (Salt Lake Tribune, February 21, 2012) Utah's BSD Medical said a new clinical study is being launched in Europe to further measure the benefits of combining the use of hyperthermia with chemotherapy for the treatment of pancreatic cancer.

National Healthcare Headlines

[The Myth of Runaway Health Spending](#) (Wall Street Journal, February 17, 2012) New data show that health spending over the past several years has been normalizing toward the rate of general inflation, rather than growing higher and higher, as had been the case almost continuously since the 1970s.

[Court action could prolong health care fight](#) (USA Today, February 21, 2012) Next month's challenge to the Obama-sponsored health care law could affect the care available to most Americans, alter the balance of power between Washington and the states and remain a flash point through this presidential campaign.

[A Frightening Shortage of Vital Drugs](#) (Editorial, New York Times, February 19, 2012) A severe shortage of a drug used to treat childhood leukemia appears to be easing, lessening the risk that hundreds if not thousands of children might die from a curable disease.

[FDA: New suppliers to ease 2 cancer drug shortages](#) (Deseret News, February 21, 2012) Federal regulators said Tuesday that they've approved new suppliers for two crucial cancer drugs, easing critical shortages — at least for the time being — that have patients worried about missing life-saving treatments.

[Replacement found for cancer drug Doxil, in short supply](#) (USA Today, February 20, 2012) Patients with ovarian cancer and other deadly tumors will regain access to an important chemotherapy drug, Food and Drug Administration officials told USA TODAY in an exclusive interview Monday.

[More hospitals charge upfront fees for non-urgent care in emergency rooms](#) (Washington Post, February 18, 2012) Next time you go to an emergency room, you should be prepared for this: If your problem isn't urgent, you may have to pay upfront.

[Catholic Hospitals Expand, Religious Strings Attached](#) (New York Times, February 20, 2012) As Roman Catholic leaders and government officials clash over the proper role of religion and reproductive health, shifts in health care economics are magnifying the tension.

[Ultrasound Abortion Bill Nears Vote in Virginia](#) (New York Times, February 21, 2012) A bill requiring a woman to get an [ultrasound](#) before having an [abortion](#) is poised to pass Virginia's legislature this week, placing it on track to be signed into law by Gov. [Bob McDonnell](#).

[U.S. to Review Diet Treatment Once Rejected](#) (New York Times, February 17, 2012) Next week, advisers to the Food and Drug Administration will recommend whether the agency should approve the first new prescription [diet](#) pill in 13 years.

[60 Lives, 30 Kidneys, All Linked](#) (New York Times, February 19, 2012) Rick Ruzzamenti admits to being a tad impulsive. He traded his Catholicism for Buddhism in a revelatory flash. He married a Vietnamese woman he had only just met. And then a year ago, he decided in an instant to donate his left kidney to a stranger.

[For Women Under 30, Most Births Occur Outside Marriage](#) (New York Times, February 19, 2012) It used to be called illegitimacy. Now it is the new normal. After steadily rising for five decades, the share of children born to unmarried women has crossed a threshold: more than half of births to American women under 30 occur outside marriage.

[Despite Safety Worries, Work on Deadly Flu to Be Released](#) (New York Times, February 18, 2012) The full details of recent experiments that made a deadly flu virus more contagious will be published, probably within a few months, despite recommendations by the United States that some information be kept secret for fear that terrorists could use it to start epidemics.

[Hepatitis C deaths up, baby boomers most at risk](#) (Boston Globe, February 21, 2012) Deaths from liver-destroying hepatitis C are on the rise, and new data shows baby boomers especially should take heed – they are most at risk. Also found at [USA Today](#), February 21, 2012.

[Regimens: Antibiotic Use for Sinusitis Is Questioned](#) (New York Times, February 21, 2012) [Antibiotics](#) are commonly used to treat [sinusitis](#), but a new clinical trial has found that a placebo works just as well.

[Aging of Eyes Is Blamed for Range of Health Woes](#) (New York Times, February 21, 2012) For decades, scientists have looked for explanations as to why certain conditions occur with age, among them [memory loss](#), slower reaction time, [insomnia](#) and even depression. They have scrupulously investigated such suspects as high [cholesterol](#), [obesity](#), heart disease and an inactive lifestyle.

[Organs from less-than-ideal donors save patients' lives](#) (USA Today, February 21, 2012) The nation's critical shortage of donor organs is triggering a change in the use of organs once considered less than perfect.

[Sex-changing treatment for kids on the rise](#) (Salt Lake Tribune, February 21, 2012) A small but growing number of teens and even younger children who think they were born the wrong sex are getting support from parents and from doctors who give them sex-changing treatments, according to reports in the medical journal Pediatrics.

[Company Unveils DNA Sequencing Device Meant to Be Portable, Disposable and Cheap](#) (New York Times, February 19, 2012) DNA sequencing is becoming both faster and cheaper. Now, it is also becoming tinier.

[Medco Health Solutions 4Q profit climbs 12 percent](#) (Deseret News, February 21, 2012) Medco Health Solutions Inc.'s fourth-quarter net income rose 12 percent, as gains from mail-order prescriptions and the pharmacy benefits manager's specialty pharmacy business helped offset expenses from its pending acquisition by Express Scripts Inc.

[British minister jostled, heckled by opponents of divisive health care reforms](#) (Washington Post, February 21, 2012) Britain's health minister was angrily heckled Monday over health care reforms that the government says will improve efficiency but opponents claim threaten the foundation of the country's state-funded health care service.

[Egypt Eyed as Possible Source of Fake Avastin](#) (Wall Street Journal, February 18, 2012) Authorities are investigating whether counterfeit packs of the cancer drug Avastin found on the U.S. market came from an Egyptian supplier, according to the U.K.'s medical regulator, amid a global effort to track the origins of the fake product that has spooked cancer doctors and patients.