

Webisode 57DHXYF October 6 2025 There are now two CDCs Centers for Disease Control

In Episode 57DHXYF 1 There are now 2 CDCs Centers for Disease Control Can the Agency survive?  
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Age Threshold For Disability Benefits 2F Costco Will Offer Wegovy Ozempic For 499 dollars Monthly To  
Uninsured Members 2i Imprecise Nutritional Science Muddies the MAHA Claims Main Content 0  
point 1 **RAWSEP View** There is a high stakes battle over vaccine injury compensation Guess who has  
been in the middle of the fight for compensation for vaccine injury for years? RFK Junior! It seems like a  
conflict of interest that the Health and Human Services Secretary RFK Junior would be denying vaccines  
to the American people based on scientifically debunked theories which he has contributed to  
disseminating in court to battle over vaccine injury compensation for which RFK Junior has received big  
fees **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood  
Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** From KFF Health News KFF Health News  
Original Stories **2A Inside the High Stakes Battle Over Vaccine Injury Compensation Autism and Public  
Trust** October 6 2025 The evidence is unequivocal Vaccines do not cause autism Yet adding autism to  
the list of conditions covered by a federal payout program as health secretary RFK Junior seems inclined  
to do could threaten its financial viability Such a move also would suggest that the science is unsettled  
that vaccines may be riskier than diseases which is a fallacy 0 point 2 **RAWSEP View** These excerpts  
from the Inside Medicine Newsletter and the KFF Health Newsletter summarize the issues around health  
surrounding the vaccine denials of RFK Junior as well as other issues that affect the health and  
healthcare of Americans today 1 There are now two CDCs Can the agency survive? **Excerpts edited by  
RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates  
a 501C3 nonprofit organization** Inside Medicine Newsletter October 6 2025 The last month was  
eventful Doctor Debra Houry one of the top CDC officials resigned in late August in protest of the Trump  
HHS Secretary RFK Junior firing of then recently confirmed CDC Director Doctor Susan Monarez The  
CDC agency is worth fighting to save A Coup de CDC The CDC is now two distinct agencies a house  
divided against itself There are the career officers who continue to carry out the core mission of the  
CDC That is the CDC of legends like Doctor William Foege the former director who played a major role  
in eradicating smallpox These dedicated federal employees may be hindered by cuts and are still reeling  
from the August attack on their headquarters but they are doing what they can to keep us safe Then  
there is a small coterie a top brass gang of RFK Junior allies who control major policies public relations  
of the CDC and its social media In Senate testimony former Chief Medical Officer Doctor Debra Houry  
one of the top CDC officials who resigned last month described the situation as a hostile takeover How  
is this manifesting? The CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices ACIP met last month voting  
on national policy without actually engaging in a review of the best evidence on the topics Instead the  
information presented was cherry picked out of context and amateurish at times The CDC also posted a  
bizarre new priorities statement basically a political manifesto that included a DEI rant and against hard  
reduction for substance use disorders the evidence based approach that has saved lives Meanwhile the  
CDC social media accounts posted against vaccine sentiments after its ACIP meeting Still I am still  
receiving some normal CDC communications in my inbox including important announcements about  
drug resistant bacteria So now when we hear from the CDC we have to ask which CDC is speaking? Last  
month I interviewed Doctor Houry for MedPage Today It is out as a three part series I encourage you to  
check it out Part 1 Super Tough Decision Top CDC Official Reflects on Her Resignation Former chief

medical officer Debra Houry discusses leadership science and the attack on the CDC Part 2 US May Not Be Ready for the Next Outbreak Ex CDC Official Says We were in a much better place up until about 7 or 8 months ago says Debra Houry Part 3 My Phone Started Blowing Up How CDC Leaders Learned of New Limits on COVID Shots We were not comfortable implementing new guidance off a social media video says Debra Houry In the time since we have seen more notable departures including Doctor Melina Wharton who spent nearly four decades at the CDC after training at Harvard MD and Johns Hopkins MPH in Epidemiology Doctor Wharton served as the top official for ACIP of the CDC Nobody understands the vaccine space better These are the experts we are losing That is why HHS employees have demanded that RFK Junior resign They are not alone Dozens of expert medical societies have made similar statements Until RFK Junior is gone or reined in the CDC foundation is at risk of falling apart Whether Congress cuts support for the agency by a little or a lot will also profoundly influence our health in America Hopefully Congress will eventually pass something closer to the most recent proposal of the Senate which would only cut 100 million dollars in funding to the CDC bringing funding down from 9 point 2 billion to 9 point 1 billion dollars But if the House gets its way 1 point 8 billion dollars would vanish bringing funding down to 7 point 4 billion dollars But even that would be better than the Trump proposal which would cut CDC funding by 5 billion dollars down to 4 point 2 billion dollars In another MedPage Today story CDC data scientists hitting a brick wall with the Trump administration over a project that would have made it easier for the public to track 127 infectious diseases known as notifiable conditions that is those which must be reported to the CDC like anthrax or West Nile virus So much for data transparency promised by the Trump administration HHS may try to blame Covid 19 vaccines for some pediatric deaths Last month FDA officials mused publicly about pediatric deaths and Covid 19 vaccines Apparently some notion of a connection which at present seems like a stretch at best might be elevated based on data in the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System VAERS The problem with using VAERS for such an endeavor is that the information entered into it are not subject to quality control That is anyone can make a claim that a vaccine caused a side effect and that would show up in the database even if there were not any real link An FDA report on based on VAERS data would be the equivalent of making national policy after reading some angry Yelp reviews Doctor Demetre Daskalakis another of the major CDC officials who resigned last month laid out the problems of this in a thread on X Twitter Follow up on the RFK Junior vaccine panels In early September Inside Medicine was first to report that HHS Secretary RFK Junior sought to rush seven new members onto ACIP in time for its most recent meeting By the time the meeting occurred five of those seven had been officially installed We do not know what became of the other two RFK Junior hopefuls They are either out for reasons unknown or will be installed by the next meeting currently scheduled for later this fall The FDA Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee has lost Doctor Paul Offit who was fired last month That is ironic because RFK Junior has railed about what he perceives as too much groupthink in these panels Doctor Offit was the most independent voice on the committee including having voted against some of the Covid 19 boosters on the grounds that they were not sufficiently improved from the earlier versions a principled data driven stance it turns out One last thing Misinformation resources As incorrect information increasingly comes from the federal government lending credence to debunked rumors and pet theories of the against vaccine movement I have been getting more requests for resources with high quality information that can address these claims While I obviously do some of that type of work here in Inside Medicine there are experts who focus almost entirely on addressing these issues Here are some resources you

might like to have handy Unbiased Science has great information in a database of topics Here is a recent post in a blog called Diplomatic Immunity that tears apart some of the logical fallacies and misunderstandings that against vaxxers use Some of our vaunted institutions have information on frequently asked questions often spurred by against vaxxers Here are two from the Hospital for Children of Philadelphia one of the most respected centers in America Vaccine ingredients in general Information about thimersosal 2 [2A Inside the High Stakes Battle Over Vaccine Injury Compensation](#) 2B [Costco Will Offer Wegovy Ozempic For 499 dollars Monthly To Uninsured Members](#) 2C [Imprecise Nutritional Science Muddies the MAHA Claims](#) [Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization](#) KFF Health Newsletter October 6 2025 ENTER OUR HAIKU CONTEST No tricks only treats! Send us your best spooky health care haikus for our Halloween competition! The deadline is 11 59 pm Eastern Time on October 19 2025 Click here for the rules and how to enter In This Edition KFF Health News Original Stories 2A [Inside the High Stakes Battle Over Vaccine Injury Compensation](#) Autism and Public Trust 2B [GOP Falsely Ties Shutdown to the Alleged Drive of Democrats To Give All Immigrants Health Care Administration News](#) 2C [Trump Weighs Raising Qualifying Age Threshold For Disability Benefits](#) Spending And Fiscal Battles 2D [Shutdown Is Latest Dose Of Misery For Federal Health Workers](#) Science And Innovations 2E [Nobel Prize in Medicine Awarded To Trio Including Two American Scientists](#) Health Care Costs 2F [Costco Will Offer Wegovy Ozempic For 499 dollars Monthly To Uninsured Members](#) State Watch 2G [Rite Aid Closes Its 89 Remaining Stores Across The US](#) Public Health Editorials And Opinions 2H [Viewpoints Gen Z Would Bear Brunt Of ACA Fight](#) 2i [Imprecise Nutritional Science Muddies the MAHA Claims](#) From KFF Health News KFF Health News Original Stories [2A Inside the High Stakes Battle Over Vaccine Injury Compensation Autism and Public Trust](#) October 6 2025 The evidence is unequivocal Vaccines do not cause autism Yet adding autism to the list of conditions covered by a federal payout program as health secretary RFK Junior seems inclined to do could threaten its financial viability Such a move also would suggest that the science is unsettled that vaccines may be riskier than diseases which is a fallacy Here is the health policy haiku of today [BROKEN TRUST Dear CDC they take away your science Health care now just myths](#) 2C [Trump Weighs Raising Qualifying Age Threshold For Disability Benefits](#) If the policy change goes into effect hundreds of thousands of Americans would no longer be eligible to receive Social Security payments for being unable to work Plus The Washington Post contends Veterans Affairs has been targeted by veterans filing bogus disability claims [The Washington Post Trump Plan Would Limit Disability Benefits For Older Americans](#) October 5 2025 The Trump administration is preparing a plan that would make it harder for older Americans to qualify for Social Security disability payments part of an overhaul of the federal safety net for poor older and disabled people that could result in hundreds of thousands of people losing benefits according to people familiar with the plans The Social Security Administration evaluates disability claims by considering age work experience and education to determine if a person can adjust to other types of work Older applicants typically over 50 have a better chance of qualifying because age is treated as a limitation in adapting to many jobs Kornfield and Rein 10 5 On autism [NPR NIH Autism Grants Arrive Amid Funding Cuts Public Health Battles](#) October 6 2025 Researchers at Cornell University have received a 5 point 1 million dollar grant from the Autism Data Science Initiative as part of the Trump administration increased scrutiny on the disorder and controversial plans to track direct sources for the complex and widely misunderstood condition The National Institutes of Health announced plans for the 50 million dollar grant project this

summer to identify how existing treatments interventions are used and better understand their outcomes to inform the design of future clinical studies Wise 10 6 [Axios RFK Junior Allies Say Autism Claims Will Drive Midterm Turnout](#) October 3 2025 The Health Secretary RFK Junior belief that vaccines or Tylenol cause autism is resonating with a slice of voters who feel abandoned by the medical establishment The Trump administration allies in the RFK Junior Make America Healthy Again movement think the RFK Junior autism agenda will help rally MAHA voters to turn out in the midterm elections and vote for Republican candidates Reed 10 3 [2i The 19th MAHA Frames Autism Around Mother Blaming Its History Goes Back Decades](#) October 3 2025 JJ Hanley can still remember the words of the pediatrician It was the early in the 1990s and the mother of two in suburban Chicago had begun to worry that her toddler age son Tim was showing language delays and other behaviors that did not align with the development of his older brother Hanley turned to the doctor of her son who declared There is nothing wrong with him What is wrong with him is you Luterman and Rodriguez 10 3 On vaccines [CNN The RFK Junior HHS Killed A Research Grant To Investigate Vaccine Safety Then Asked The Researcher To Publicly Present Results](#) October 4 2025 About 90 seconds into his presentation on Covid 19 vaccine safety at a closely watched meeting of advisers to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention last month Doctor Bruce Carleton made a startling revelation The government grant supporting his research had been abruptly terminated Tirrell 10 4 [2F KFF Health News Inside The High Stakes Battle Over Vaccine Injury Compensation Autism And Public Trust](#) October 6 2025 Department of Health and Human Services Secretary RFK Junior has floated a seismic idea adding autism to the list of conditions covered by the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program The program known as VICP provides a system for families to file claims against vaccine providers in cases in which they experience severe side effects RKF Junior has also suggested broadening the definitions of two serious brain conditions encephalopathy and encephalitis so that autism cases could qualify Gounder 10 6 [The Washington Post These Adults Grew Up Unvaccinated After 18 They Rushed To Protect Themselves](#) October 5 2025 At 30 years old Lacie Madison just assumed she was fully vaccinated her entire life But when she got a job at a hospital and was required to check her immunity the doctor called with shocking news It appeared she was barely vaccinated as a child if at all I just said Are you kidding me? recalled Madison now 39 years old Thadani 10 5 The latest on the federal shutdown [Roll Call Senate Returns As Shutdown Continues With No Endgame In Sight](#) October 6 2025 The Senate returns Monday with no signs of progress toward ending the partial government shutdown that began on October 1 with Trump blaming potential layoffs on Democrats Federal executive branch employees including those on furlough status and working without pay could generally receive paychecks on Friday through electronic funds transfer that should be close to normal even for departments and agencies that lacked funds to pay them past September 30 as the pay covers the pay cycle that ended on Saturday Lesniewski 10 6 [NBC News A Majority Of Trump Supporters Back Extending Obamacare Subsidies](#) October 3 2025 Most of Trump supporters back keeping enhanced subsidies for Affordable Care Act plans the central obstacle in ending the government shutdown according to a new poll from the nonpartisan health policy research group KFF It was conducted September 23 through September 29 just days before Congress failed to pass a funding measure to keep the government open More than 22 million people receive the subsidies which are set to expire at the end of the year unless Congress extends them Lovelace Junior 10 3 [The Washington Post The Defiance of Democrats On Shutdown Shows A New Tougher Approach To Trump](#) October 4 2025 The defiant approach of Democrats to the

current government shutdown reflects a party mood that has shifted dramatically as a growing number of Democrats inside and outside Washington are embracing all out confrontation with Trump. Only a few months ago some leading voices in the party stunned by The Trump broad election win were counseling against picking unnecessary fights or appearing to reject the will of the voters. But in this shutdown battle and a growing number of political fights around the country it is harder to find Democrats arguing against forceful resistance.

**KFF Health News GOP Falsely Ties Shutdown To the Alleged Drive of Democrats To Give All Immigrants Health Care** October 6 2025 As the US headed for a government shutdown Republicans repeatedly accused Democrats of forcing the closure because they want to give health care access to immigrants in the US illegally. Democrats are threatening to shut down the entire government because they want to give hundreds of billions of dollars of health care benefits to illegal aliens. JD Vance said September 28 on Fox News Sunday. Ramirez Uribe 10 6

In related news about telehealth access **Roll Call Doctors Cancel Telehealth Appointments As Medicare Coverage Lapses** October 3 2025 Health care providers across the country are canceling telehealth visits with Medicare beneficiaries or warning patients they will have to pay out of pocket for appointments because Congress let coverage lapse. When government funding expired September 30 so did several health care policies mostly involving payments and among them are provisions that allowed Medicare to cover telehealth services for millions of people who are 65 and older or have disabilities. Hellmann 10 3

**Stat Telehealth Companies Shifting From Access To Care To Selling Drugs** October 6 2025 Ads for the telehealth company Hims sharing a message Hard made easy. Palmer 10 6

**Nobel Prize in Medicine Awarded To Trio Including Two American Scientists** The three scientists have discovered how the immune system protects us from invading pathogens and how regulatory T cells prevent immune cells from attacking our own body. Scientists hope their discoveries will lead to cures for common autoimmune diseases. **CNN Nobel Prize In Medicine Goes To Trio Of Scientists For Discovering How The Immune System Is Kept In Check** October 6 2025 The 2025 Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine has been awarded to a trio of scientists two of them American and one Japanese who will share the prize for their fundamental discoveries relating to peripheral immune tolerance the Nobel Committee announced Monday at a ceremony in Stockholm Sweden. Edwards and Hunt 10 6

**CNN 5 Nobel Worthy Scientific Advances That Have not Won The Prize** October 6 2025 it is the time of year when leading scientists might not want to let any calls go to voicemail. Prizes in chemistry physics and physiology or medicine established by Swedish industrialist Alfred Nobel more than a century ago will be announced this week along with prizes in peace and literature. The awards are a pinnacle of scientific achievement. But predicting who will win is largely guesswork. There is however no shortage of worthy scientific advances from which the Nobel Prize committees can pick. Here are five life changing breakthroughs and discoveries that experts think are Nobel worthy. **The New York Times Beyond The Nobel Prizes Is A World Of Scientific Awards** October 5 2025 In place of the Nobels a trove of prestigious awards has emerged to honor work in other fields. Robles Gil 10 5

More science and tech news **Bloomberg The Musk Neuralink Submits Brain Implant Patient Data To Journal** October 5 2025 Neuralink Corp The Elon Musk brain implant company has submitted a scientific paper to a journal describing the results from some of its patients which would be its first peer reviewed publication with human data. The paper was sent to the New England Journal of Medicine and describes the first three patients who were implanted with the Neuralink device including safety data according to Michael Lawton chief executive officer and president of the Barrow Neurological Institute a Neuralink clinical trial

site Swetlitz 10 5 [The Washington Post Brain Cells That Create Hallucinations Illusions Could Provide Path For Mental Illness Treatment](#) October 5 2025 Researchers used lasers to record and stimulate the activity of neurons in mice to learn how the brain processes and interprets optical illusions Johnson 10 5

[Modern Healthcare How AI Is Advancing Into Rural Health Virtual Primary Care](#) October 3 2025 The Health system love affair with artificial intelligence is stretching beyond obvious use cases There is no shortage of digital health companies offering AI and tech tools to help clinicians document in the electronic health record and get providers paid faster While health system executives praise the reduction of pajama time and an easier time with prior authorization they are also looking solutions to address the barriers in rural care and clinician shortages Perna 10 3

[The Washington Post the Amazon Ring Plans To Scan the Face of Everyone At The Door](#) October 3 2025 Facial recognition technology is increasingly used in airports police investigations and sports venues Now The Amazon Ring says it is putting facial recognition for the first time into its home security doorbells and video cameras it is intended to identify your sister a neighbor or other people you know While the feature will be optional for Ring device owners privacy advocates say it is unfair that wherever the technology is in use anyone within sight will have their faces scanned to determine who is a friend or stranger Ovide 10 3

Health Care Costs [2F Costco Will Offer Wegovy Ozempic For 499 dollars Monthly To Uninsured Members](#) Novo Nordisk announced Friday that it wanted to ensure everyone had access to the authentic drugs Also Senator Ruben Gallego Democrat of Arizona has pushed for more details regarding the deal of the Trump White House with Pfizer Colorado has placed a price cap on Enbrel a drug used to treat some autoimmune diseases and more The Hill [Costco To Sell Ozempic Wegovy For 499 dollars A Month](#) October 3 2025 Pharmaceutical company Novo Nordisk announced Friday that Costco will begin selling monthly supplies of Ozempic and Wegovy for 499 dollars to uninsured members The discounted price comes as more Americans have become aware of GLP 1 weight loss drugs which have become increasingly popular as people have touted body transformations and health benefits Venkat 10 3

More on the high cost of pharmaceuticals The Hill [Ruben Gallego Seeks Details On Trump Pfizer Drug Pricing Deal](#) October 3 2025 Senator Ruben Gallego Democrat of Arizona is raising concerns over the lack of details given about the Trump most favored nation MFN pricing deal he announced with Pfizer this week calling on the CEO of the company to explain how it plans to execute the agreement In a letter to Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla provided to The Hill Gallego asked for clarity in his agreement with the Trump administration Choi 10 3

The Washington Post [As States Take Aim At Prescription Costs Colorado Caps the price of Enbrel](#) October 4 2025 Colorado regulators have approved a dramatic price cap on one of the bestselling drugs in America cutting its price to less than one third of its previous level in a novel attempt by a state to respond to widespread anger over the rising cost of prescriptions Maryland Minnesota and Washington also have passed legislation in recent years that enables state officials to set price caps on specific drugs deemed unaffordable and they are now expected to follow the path of Colorado Whoriskey 10 4

Stat [Drugmakers European Officials Bear Down On Major Policy Overhaul](#) October 6 2025 After years of work European officials are nearing the finish line on the biggest shakeup to European pharmaceutical policy in decades with major impacts on everything from how quickly new medicines are rolled out across the continent to how willing drugmakers are to invest in the EU Joseph 10 6

The New York Times [How Private Equity Oversees The Ethics Of Drug Research](#) When the Danish drugmaker Novo Nordisk wanted to test whether the main ingredient in Ozempic its wildly popular weight loss and diabetes drug