
INDUSTRY NEWS BLAST

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SCRIPT CARE

How Often Should People Get COVID Boosters?

April 13, 2023

www.scientificamerican.com

The FDA and CDC both stand by their recommendation that one COVID bivalent booster is enough for most people (anyone over the age of 65 and those with immunocompromised conditions can receive a second booster). Canada and the UK have approved a second booster for elderly, long-term care facility residents and the immunocompromised population. While some people have been able to 'game the system' and receive a second booster outside of standards, experts warn that any medical emergency caused by the extra shot would not fall under the government COVID program coverage. [1]

FDA Approves Over-the-Counter Narcan. Here's What It Means

March 29, 2023

www.cheddar.com

Narcan can reverse heroin, fentanyl and oxycodone overdose symptoms and should be officially available for OTC purchase by the end of summer. Prior to the FDA decision, every individual state allowed for OTC sale of Narcan, but not every pharmacy carried it. Public health officials say that making the drug more available can help prevent some of the 100,000 opioid-related deaths that occur each year and is paving the way to providing it in non-pharmacy settings. [2]

Ketamine clinics have emerged across the US. They're already going bust

April 11, 2023

www.theguardian.com

Ketamine, as a treatment for mental illness, has been increasing in popularity, but without proper regulatory guidance, patients are being negatively impacted by investors trying to profit. Newly opened clinics are going bankrupt and closing down, without notice to existing patients – and telehealth providers are aggressively marketing delivery options (most without the necessary psychotherapy component). Not surprisingly, many of the people who could benefit the most from ketamine treatment are unable to navigate their insurance providers to afford proper support. [3]

Here's what really happened during the abortion drug's approval 23 years ago

April 14, 2023

www.npr.org

Mifepristone was developed in France in 1980 and was approved in France, China, the UK, Sweden and a dozen other countries prior to its approval in the US in 2000. Further, the FDA spent four years reviewing efficacy and safety data prior to making its decision. Contrary to some claims, the drug did not receive 'accelerated approval;' in fact, the FDA added safety restrictions during the review process. [4]

1 in 4 students misuse ADHD drugs in parts of U.S., study finds

April 19, 2023

www.cbsnews.com

A study in JAMA reported that as many as 25% of middle- and highschoolers have misused ADHD drugs (varying from 0% to 25% depending on the school being surveyed). Experts warn that using Ritalin, Adderall and other non-branded stimulant medications without proper medical guidance can be harmful. The study results are also important, as ADHD drug shortages have grown increasingly prevalent across the country. [5]



Good News for Coffee Lovers [Runtime: 11:02]

Podcast Series: Science Quickly (Scientific America)

Browser Link: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode/we-have-good-news-for-coffee-lovers>

In a recent study, 100 people were texted every morning to let them know if they could drink coffee that day or if they were expected to abstain. Based off of readings from a heart monitor, FitBit and continuous glucose monitor, drinking coffee does not increase the occurrence of premature atrial contractions and only slightly increased premature contractions in the lower chambers (tl;dr – coffee doesn't appear to materially impact your heartbeat). Further, when people consumed coffee, they also averaged 1,000 more steps per day than when they abstained. Not surprisingly, coffee does appear to impact sleep duration but that varies dramatically based on how quickly your body metabolizes caffeine. [6]

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Sources

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[5] Moniuszko, S. (2023, April 19). 1 in 4 students misuse ADHD drugs in parts of U.S., study finds. CBS News. Retrieved April 19, 2023, from <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/adhd-drugs-teens-misuse-adderall-ritalin-stimulants-study/>

[6] Fischman, Josh and Lewis, Tanya. (2023, April 12). Science Quickly: Good news for coffee lovers [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <https://www.scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode/we-have-good-news-for-coffee-lovers/#transcripts-body> on April 17, 2023

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