Researchers from the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, in collaboration with several other institutions, have discovered a genetic defect linked to Biliary atresia (BA), the most common pediatric cause of end-stage liver disease, and the leading indication for liver transplantation in children.

"The importance of this is that researchers have never identified a gene, when mutated, that causes BA. This is the first time it has been found." - Ronald Sokol, MD, pediatric gastroenterologist and hepatologist at Children's Hospital Colorado and Director of the Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI) at CU Anschutz.

Read HERE
UPCOMING EVENTS

Flavors of Denver
May 16, 2019 @ Wings Over the Rockies

Flavors is a unique dining experience provided by Denver’s top chefs. Come be a part of this evening showcase and go beyond your usual restaurant fare with dishes to win your heart and appetite.

Sponsored by

TOYOTA

CLICK HERE FOR INFO

Colfax Marathon
May 18-19, 2019

Fulfill your New Year’s Resolution by running at Colfax for ALF as your charity! 2 days. 7 races. Which one will you choose?

CLICK HERE FOR INFO
Our Ask the Experts are FREE liver educational programs, and we invite those in the community who would like to learn more about liver health and wellness as well as those patients affected by liver disease, liver transplant recipients, living donors, patient caregivers and any medical professionals who want to learn more about liver disease.

The Rocky Mountain Division will host 10 liver patient education programs in 2019. Programs include in-person events throughout Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana, as well as online webinars.
Why I give.

In August, 2013, I gave birth to my second child, a daughter named Peri. Three weeks later, after a gamut of tests, liver biopsy and trip to Children’s Hospital Peri was diagnosed with a rare, life-threatening liver disease called Biliary Atresia. Following an initial surgery, Peri’s health trajectory was a slow, downward spiral accentuated by regular trips to Denver for care, life-flights, emergency room visits, lab work, feeding tubes and hospital stays. Although we faced her disease head-on, it was frustrating beyond compare. To say the least, our family was stuck in the dark, desolate limbo that is chronic illness.

In 2017, with accelerated complications pushing Peri into Pediatric End Stage Liver Disease, the decision was made to list her for transplant. With a low PELD score, it was clear live donation was the best course of action to give her the organ she desperately needed. I was approved as Peri’s living donor and on March 21, 2017, we underwent simultaneous surgeries at UCHealth and Children’s Hospital Colorado to give my daughter chance at life.

Today, Peri is a vibrant, headstrong 5 year old. I give to the American Liver Foundation for Peri. I give for the thousands of people waiting for a life-saving transplant. I give for those facing the unimaginable fear of liver disease. I give for opportunity, I give for strength, I give for hope.
Claire was born and raised in western Colorado. She currently lives with her husband, 7 year old son and 5 year old daughter in Red Lodge, Montana. Claire holds a BA in History/Government and BS in Marketing. Favorite quote: “Life is tough, but the liver is tougher.”

**When:** Sunday, August 4, 2019

**Time:** 9:30AM-11:30AM (check in 9:10AM)

**Where:** Queen of Vietnamese Martyrs 4695 N. Harlan St., Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

**Language:** Vietnamese-speaking presentation

**Program Topics:**

- **9:30a-10:10a**  *HEP B with Dr. Phat D. Hoang from Westview Family Medicine in Phoenix, Arizona*
- **10:10a-10:40a**  *30 Minute Panel Discussion*
- **10:40a-11:00a**  *Liver Wellness & Compliance with Loann Tran, RN, BSN, CPN, Liver Clinic Coordinator at The Digestive Health Institute at Children’s Hospital Colorado*
- **11:00a-11:30a**  *30 Minute Panel Discussion*
Want to host a wine-tasting party and raise funds for charity while doing it?

Wines for Humanity is a Wine Sampling Event company dedicated to introducing the public to fine wines while raising funds for charity. Their delicious wines are sourced from award-winning vineyards the world over.

The hosts of these private Wine Sampling Events and their guests relax and enjoy the wines in a fun, educational environment. Not only does everyone have an extraordinary time with great wines and good friends, but a portion of the proceeds from every bottle promoted directly benefits families in their community. Want to donate a portion of your purchase to ALF? Simply let your wine advisor know and she will take care of the rest.

A Wine Sampling Event is a great way to gather your friends and family for an educational and unforgettable experience! To host yours today, contact Pamela Thompson.

Without our dedicated volunteers we couldn’t complete our mission to promote education, advocacy, support services and research for the prevention, treatment, and cure of liver disease. We sincerely thank each and every one of our volunteers for their support!
Are you looking to help make a difference? Come volunteer with us and help support our cause to eradicate liver disease! Together, we are stronger.

Below are the opportunities available for the Rocky Mountain Division:

**Flavors of Denver 2019 -** [CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP]

In the coming weeks, the Colorado legislature will consider some bills to help Coloradans better afford the high costs of living with a chronic disease. We are looking to collect and assist in the telling of stories of those Coloradans who have been struggling with the rising cost of health care. If high healthcare costs have impacted your life, we want to hear your story.

This legislative session, we are specifically, looking for folks who meet any of the following criteria:

- Lives in Rural Colorado
- Does not receive insurance via their employer, a spouse’s employer, or Medicare/Medicaid
- Struggles to afford their monthly health care costs
- Has to take unpaid leave to care for a family member with a chronic disease or disability

Have you had any of these experiences? If so, Colorado legislators need to hear stories like yours to create meaningful policy, and we would like to help you tell your story.

We hope we can count on you to:

- Share your story with a legislator on March 18 at the [CCC Day at the Capitol](#)
- Call or write your legislator *(we can help!)*
- Share your story in another way.

As many of us know, managing chronic conditions is personal and everyone’s healthcare experience is unique. As policy makers are considering changes to the healthcare system, hearing their constituents’ real-life stories will contribute to
informed, patient-centered lawmaking. Please reply to us with your story, and how you would like to be involved.

Thank you to our Hometown Toyota stores for being the **Presenting Sponsor** at Flavors of Denver 2019.

Thank you to Mark's Diamonds for being our exclusive provider for the Flavors of Denver **Diamond Grab**!

Follow the Rocky Mountain Division Today!