Study underscores need to screen pediatric cancer patients for delirium

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Delirium is a frequent occurrence among children hospitalized with cancer, affecting nearly one in five patients, according to new research from Weill Cornell Medicine and NewYork-Presbyterian. The study, published Nov. 21 in the Journal of Pediatrics, revealed that children who were either younger than 5 years old, had an underlying brain tumor, were recovering from surgery or receiving benzodiazepines — a class of drugs that treat anxiety, nervousness, seizures and other conditions by altering chemical signals in the brain — were at greatest risk for delirium, a mental state characterized by changes in alertness, cognition or awareness. The investigators say their findings demonstrate that children with cancer are at risk for developing delirium, and underscore the importance of routine screenings for the condition, which is associated with poor health outcomes, prolonged hospital stays and increased distress for patients and their families.

Pitch perfect: successful treatment for Crohn’s disease let a young New Yorker pursue her Broadway dreams

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Analise Scarpaci's career debut also changed her long-term health.

Childhood concussions can have a lasting impact according to pediatric neurologist Dr.
Dr. Barry Kosofsky spoke on concussion impacts for teens. 

New Study Reveals Nonsurgical Premature Menopause Affects Fertility in Female Childhood Cancer Survivors 

The study by Dr. Jennifer Levine and colleagues, which is published in Cancer, found that women who survived childhood cancer faced an increased risk for nonsurgical premature menopause, resulting in lower rates of live birth for female survivors in their 30s.

Gale and Ira Drukier Prize in Children’s Health Research Awarded to Dr. Vijay Sankaran 

Harvard Physician-Scientist Honored for Research on Genetic Blood Disorders 

Dr. Vijay Sankaran, a physician-scientist who investigates the molecular underpinnings of pediatric genetic blood disorders, has been awarded the 3rd Annual Gale and Ira Drukier Prize in Children’s Health Research at Weill Cornell Medicine.

New Pilot Study Finds Low-Cost “Care Bundle” Associated with Significant Reduction in Preterm Infant Mortality in Tanzania 

A pilot study led by Jeffrey M. Perlman, MB, ChB involving 11 Tanzanian Physicians and Midwives found that new ways of approaching care in Tanzanian hospitals led to a significant reduction in preterm mortality. The study, which has implications for most global resource-limited settings, was published today in PLOS ONE. Dr. Perlman, a professor of pediatrics at Weill Cornell Medicine and Chief of Newborn Medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian Komansky Children’s Hospital, and his research team explored ways to improve birth rates by providing midwives and other members of the healthcare team with a low cost “care bundle.” The results are an overall 26% reduction in premature infant mortality and up to a 70% reduction in premature infant mortality when infants
are exposed to all components of the care bundle.

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