CNN Money

**Walmart to use Tucson Firm's Drug-Monitoring System**

Retail giant Walmart will use drug-therapy management technology developed by Tucson-based SinfoniaRx to improve patient health, the local company announced Wednesday. The company’s technology — originally developed by researchers and faculty at the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy — is used by pharmacists at the UA and Ohio State University to monitor prescription use for about 300 health plans, representing more than 6 million patients nationally.

“We are incredibly excited to launch this new program with Walmart,” said Kevin P. Boesen, PharmD, founder and CEO of SinfoniaRx. “Managing complex, chronic illnesses is a real challenge. We are honored to work with Walmart to help patients live better lives.” [Read more](#)

Science Daily

**Genetically Elevated Triglyceride Level May Protect Against Type 2 Diabetes**

Elevated plasma triglyceride level is considered a risk factor for type 2 diabetes, but new findings suggest that a genetically elevated triglyceride level is associated with protection against type-2 diabetes. [Yann](#)
Klimentidis, PhD, an assistant professor at the UA Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, and colleagues found that triglyceride-increasing alleles are associated with decreased type-2 diabetes incidence. Their findings were published recently in *PLOS Genetics*. Read more

Living Well: Arizona Republic

**Valley Fever 'Arizona's Illness' can be Extremely Debilitating, says UA Expert**

Valley Fever ultimately affects many people who live in Arizona. Indeed, the majority of sufferers in the United States live at least part of the year in the Grand Canyon State. The course of the illness and its prognosis can vary substantially, with health effects ranging from almost non-existent to extremely debilitating. Scientifically known as Coccidioidomycosis ("Cocci") Valley Fever is caused by a fungus whose spores are inhaled from soil or when dust becomes airborne. The vast majority of Arizona cases are confined to Maricopa, Pinal and Pima counties, said infectious disease specialist John Galgiani, MD, professor at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson and director of the UA Valley Fever Center for Excellence in Tucson and Phoenix. Read more

Arizona Daily Star

**Drug overdoses in Pima County Cause More than 300 Deaths Annually**

With the number of local deaths from drug overdoses now outpacing that of motor vehicle crashes, a growing concern exists in both Tucson and nationally about prescription pain medications. Arizona ranks sixth-highest nationally for individuals misusing and abusing prescription drugs, says Alyssa Padilla, MPH, a special projects coordinator at the University of Arizona Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. Read more
Advice for Elderly Patients from India to Navigate U.S. Health-Care System

An interview with Sathish Karmegam, MD, an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson, offers some practical advice for elderly patients of Indian descent when they must navigate the U.S. health-care system. Read more

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