

NEW PERSPECTIVES: PART II

The Week on Twitter

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A lot has been happening on my Twitter timeline, as it always does (whether I'm looking or not). These are a few of the stories that I learned from, and maybe you will find something of value here, too. After our recent, well-attended SGIM national meeting in San Diego, I was especially primed to seek out all the information that could help me be the best generalist that I can be. This list has a decidedly medical feel to it, even though Twitter has the capability of exploring issues more broadly—depending on whom you follow and how you navigate the flow of conversation.

The first person with Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), which is caused by coronavirus, was found in the United States recently. This disease has been a significant public health issue in Saudi Arabia since late 2012, and its spread to the United States led to an almost SARS-like panic, at least on my timeline. I managed to get a fair amount of reliable information from these sources.

@WHO

On 2 May 2014, the **#US** reported a lab-confirmed case of Middle East respiratory syndrome in a US citizen who lives in **#SaudiArabia** **#MERS**

@Medscape

Everything you need to know about the **#MERS** outbreak <http://bit.ly/1sbM1Es>

@AnnalsofIM

A recent editorial questions the pandemic potential of **#MERS**. Read, 'Medusa's Ugly Head Again: From SARS to MERS-CoV' <http://bit.ly/1kM4rsg>

Polio was another disease that was mentioned often. This made for depressing news considering that India has not had a single polio case for more than two years. Seems like polio is on its way back, especially in war-ravaged countries like Pakistan, Syria, and Iraq.

@WHO

This year during low season of **#polio** transmission (Jan-Apr), there had been 59 cases in **#Pakistan**, compared to 9 the same period last year

@UN

News: **@WHO** declares the spread of wild **#polio** virus to date in 2014 as a Public Health Emergency of Intl Concern <http://goo.gl/Bzcvq4>

@Laurie_Garrett

Two years ago we were on edge of victory over **#polio**. Now we are in crisis mode. Unusual emergency statement from WHO: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/statements/2014/polio-20140505/en/> ...

Another common topic of discussion was the resurgence of vaccine preventable disease.

@mmtiasv

MT **@picardonhealth** Anti-vaxxers just won't quit - even as preventable diseases spread <http://ti.me/1mv2mjX> via **@TIMEHealth** **#vaccineswork**

@drflanders

Such an important concept - MT **@DrFriedenCDC** Our most imp't achievements are outbreaks that didn't happen. **#vaccineswork** **@Pezzapezzi** **#Vaccines** are one of the most successful tools to protect your health

pic.twitter.com/kxNxRtkWzG **#vaccineswork** would you drive without brakes?

A pediatrician tweeted about the need to be able to recognize resurgent vaccine-preventable diseases that we have not seen in a long while.

@DoctorNatasha

Sadly, you're going to need this one. → How to recognize measles from **@WashingtonPost**: <http://ow.ly/wkC40> **#vaccineswork**

Another issue discussed widely was the increased incidence of diabetes in children despite news that diabetes complication rates are down.

@USATODAYhealth

Diabetes rates skyrocket in kids and teens. Type 2 prevalence up 30% 2000-2009; type 1 prevalence up 21%, <http://usat.ly/1flhhIW>

@AARPCA

Diabetes-related complications seen declining among US adults: <http://bit.ly/1mwn9EJ> **#health**

Medical students' choice of specialty was on our minds, as were discussions about costs of care and how this impacts the practice of medicine.

@KHNews

Who Should Get Pricy Hepatitis C Drugs? <http://khne.ws/1iQrle7> **#healthcosts** pic.twitter.com/vdPC0GeCpc

@KHNews

Who Really Pays For Health Care Might Surprise You, **@JayHancock1** reports: <http://khne.ws/1nJp7o1>

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@TimLaheyMD

Bright **#medstudents** pick plastic surgery over medicine. Beyond money, why? via **@jjaeger3**

@thinkalot #meded pic.twitter.com/dJ97hDbQFc

@Rock_Health

73 drug brands whose prices increased 75% or more. **http://bloom.bg/1l14czx**

@dopaminergic13

America's Broken Health Care System: The Role of Drug, Device Man-

ufacturers **http://buff.ly/1fhcQou**
Finally, there were some ways to make health care better, safer, and maybe even cheaper.

@brookmanknight

Friday Feedback RIP Annual Check-ups? **http://www.medpagetoday.com/PrimaryCare/GeneralPrimaryCare/45565?isalert=1...** Interesting range of comments. Statistics vs individual benefit.

@LouiseAronson

RT **@tomleblancMD**: New evidence:

early **#palliative** care in advanced **#cancer**: shorter LOS, less death in hospital: **http://ow.ly/weQgH #hpm**

@doctorwes

MT **@medrants**: Which should we emphasize—knowledge or wisdom? **http://wp.me/pdYtH-20A**

I would love to hear your thoughts about anything that caught your eye here. Thanks for reading.

SGIM