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Morning Break: Dangerous Dietary Supplements

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By MedPage Today Staff

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Morning Break is a daily guide to what's new and interesting on the Web for healthcare professionals, powered by the MedPage Today community. Got a tip? Send it to us:

MPT_editorial@everydayhealthinc.com.

"Dietary supplements account for nearly 20 percent of drug-related liver injuries that turn up in hospitals, up from 7 percent a decade ago," [reports The New York Times](#).



For two doctors, [working on Christmas was a privilege](#), writes John Henning Schumann, MD.

In what [FierceBiotech called a surprise move](#), the FDA approved United Therapeutics' treprostinil, for pulmonary arterial hypertension. The drug had been denied approval twice.

Michiaki Takahashi, MD, who developed the chickenpox vaccine, [has died at 85](#). And Janet Rowley, MD, who linked cancer to genes, [has died at 88](#).

Is the Affordable Care Act's first-year enrollment target of 7 million still within reach? This MSNBC article thinks so – if the [current enrollment acceleration continues](#).

A post-graduate student asks Skeptical Scalpel [whether she should become a doctor or a nurse practitioner](#). Don't miss the comments.

A new tool helps patients figure out [how long they'll wait in their local emergency room](#), courtesy of ProPublica.

Should doctors turn in patients who suffer from conditions that could impair their driving? That's the [subject of discussion in Australia now](#).

Some groups are [giving up hope on trying to expand Medicaid](#) under the Affordable Care Act in Republican-dominated states.

The telehealth industry [will soon expand to \\$2 billion](#), one analytics firm projects.

Novartis has been recalling millions of bottles of samples sent to physicians for blood pressure drugs amlodipine/valsartan (Exforge), aliskiren (Tekturna), and valsartan (Diovan) as well as the statin fluvastatin (Lescol) and Parkinson's drug carbidopa/levodopa/entacapone (Stalevo). [Pharmalot explains why](#).

In case you missed it: Concierge doctors are [hoping to organize](#).

The [truth behind artificial sweetener aspartame](#) is complicated but nowhere near as scary as some would have you believe.

Morning Break is taking December 24th and 25th off. Have a great holiday, and see you on Thursday.

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