Media Weigh How Muscles Prevent Diabetes

Research by Dr. Preethi Srikanthan, assistant professor of endocrinology, linking muscle mass to a lower risk for developing Type-2 diabetes, was reported Aug. 4 by Medscape; Aug. 2 by Time and Planet Insane; July 28 by WebMD, Red Orbit and Third Age.com; and July 29 by United Press International, Medical News Today, International Business Times, eMaxHealth Press TV, Women Citizen, Asian News International, and many more. Srikanthan and coauthor Dr. Arun Karlamangla, associate professor of geriatrics, were quoted.
CBS Evening News Spotlights Bladder-Cancer Care
Dr. Karim Chamie, a postdoctoral fellow in urologic oncology and health services research, was interviewed July 29 on CBS Evening News about his research at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center. He showed that most patients with high-grade, non-invasive bladder cancer do not receive the guideline-recommended care that would best protect them from a recurrence.

Teens' Weakness for Fast Food Draws Wide Coverage
Susan Babey, a project director with the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health, commented on a Center report finding that California teenagers who live or attend school in areas with high concentrations of junk food outlets are more likely to consume soda and fast food. Coverage included the July 27 Riverside Press-Enterprise, the July 28 Indo-Asian News Service, the July 29 California Watch, the August 1 United Press International, the August 3 KSEE-Channel 24 news (Fresno) and the August 4 Washington Post and Los Angeles Times.

NBC Investigates Drug's Failure to Combat PTSD
Dr. Ian Cook, the Miller Family Professor of Psychiatry and director of the depression research program at the Semel Institute, was featured in an August 1 NBC News Channel story airing on more than 130 affiliates, and was quoted in an August 1 MSNBC article, about research showing that a commonly prescribed medication for post-traumatic stress disorder may be ineffective.

Contraception under Health Reform Attracts Headlines
Dr. Linda Rosenstock, dean of the School of Public Health, was featured in news coverage about a recommendation by an Institute of Medicine panel that she chaired requiring insurers to cover birth control and other women’s preventive health services without co-payment under the new health care reform law. Reports ran Aug. 1 in the Chicago Tribune, Associated Press, New York Sun, Washington Post and Examiner blogs, the website of KPCC-89.3 FM, HealthDay News and American Medical News. Rosenstock was also interviewed Aug. 1 by KPCC 89.3FM and WNYC 93.9FM (New York).

ABC News Investigates Major Cause of Blindness
Dr. Ralph Levinson, professor of ophthalmology at the Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA, was featured in an Aug. 1 ABCNews.com story about a local toddler suffering from uveitis, an inflammation of the middle layer of the eye that is the third leading cause of blindness in the U.S.

Channel 2 Airs Heart-warming Transplant Story
KCBS–Channel 2 reported July 29 on a "warm" heart transplant — in which the donor heart is not transported on ice — recently performed at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Dr. Abbas Ardehali, surgical director of the heart and lung transplant program at the medical center, was interviewed.

News Tribune Explores Women's Struggle to Lose Weight
An Aug. 3 McClatchy-Tribune News story featured expert commentary by Dr. David Heber, professor of medicine and director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, about the physiological, psychological and social factors that make it more difficult for women to lose weight than men.

KTTV Looks into Salmonella Outbreak
KTTV-Channel 11 aired an Aug. 2 in-studio interview with Dr. Mark Morocco, associate clinical professor of medicine and associate residency director of emergency medicine, who discussed a recent salmonella outbreak in the United States.

UPI Examines Health Spending Gap between Latinos, Whites
Arturo Vargas Bustamante, assistant professor of health services at the School of Public Health, was featured July 27 by United Press International about a study showing that Latinos in the U.S. are less likely to spend for health care and are more likely to pay out-of-pocket when they do spend than whites.
KNBC Explains How to Direct Movies with your Mind
Robert Bilder, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was interviewed in a July 29 KNBC news story about a film project at the Topanga Film Festival in which viewers wear an EEG headset that monitors changes in their brain state and alters the plot of the film accordingly.

Pediatrician Emphasizes Importance of Reading to HuffPo
The Huffington Post ran a July 31 interview with Dr. Katie Swec, assistant professor of pediatrics, who was recently named medical director of the Los Angeles Reach Out and Read. The program promotes early literacy and school readiness via reading materials in pediatric exam rooms.

AOL’s Patch Explores Innovative Financing to Fight HIV
A lecture by Dr. Philippe Douste-Blazy, the United Nations’ advisor on innovative financing, to fight AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis in developing countries was covered July 29 by the Westwood/Century City edition of AOL’s Patch.com. The event was sponsored by the UCLA Program in Global Health at the David Geffen School of Medicine. Thomas Coates, program director and the Michael and Sue Steinberg Endowed Professor of Global AIDS, was quoted.

Examiner Covers Melanoma Resistance Study
Research that tested combination drug therapy to combat drug resistance in melanoma patients was featured Aug. 1, on Examiner.com and Aug. 2 in InSciences, Science Daily and Red Orbit. The study was led by Dr. Roger Lo, an assistant professor of dermatology and molecular/medical pharmacology and a member of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Local Magazine Highlights Children’s Health Study
The June/July issue of City Pride Magazine ran an editorial by Dena Herman, co-director of the National Children’s Study for the Los Angeles-Ventura County Study Center and adjunct assistant professor at the School of Public Health. She described the study, which will collect data on how environmental factors affect child health

BRIEFS
An Aug. 1 Huffington Post blog on the nutritional value of carotenoids --natural antioxidants found in colorful fruits, vegetables and herbs--cited a book called "What Color is Your Diet?" by Dr. David Heber, professor of medicine and director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition.

Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA was cited Aug. 2 by Coos Bay World (OR) about a local toddler who underwent a successful hemispherectomy brain surgery last winter to treat his uncontrollable seizures.

A 2005 study by Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center researchers examining the health benefits of animal-assisted therapy was cited July 31 by the Press-Enterprise.

The pediatric hematology/oncology division of Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA was cited Aug. 1 in a Daily Breeze article about an upcoming basketball tournament benefiting the hospital.

The Banning-Beaumont Patch reported Aug. 4 on several fundraisers to support a teen being treated at Mattel Children’s Hospital for bone and lung cancer.

QUOTABLES
Dr. David Baron, family medicine physician and former chief of staff at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, commented Aug. 2 on KNX AM1070 about severe food allergies.

Ilana Berg, outpatient kidney transplant coordinator, was quoted July 22 by the Ventura County Star about transplant patients losing Medicare coverage for anti-rejection medications three years after their surgery.
Dr. Alexander Bystritsky, professor of psychiatry and director of the anxiety disorder program at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an August 2 Medscape article about the origins of panic attacks.

Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted Aug. 2 by ABC News.com about heat illnesses in student athletes.

David Hovda, professor of neurosurgery and director of the UCLA Brain Injury Research Center, commented July 29 in two stories by Science (1, 2) on the effect of traumatic brain injuries on military personnel and the resulting interplay with post-traumatic stress, dementia and depression.

Dr. Michael Irwin, director of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology and professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, commented August 4 on CNN.com about presidential stress’s impact upon aging.

Vickie Mays, professor of health services in the School of Public Health, commented July 31 in a Los Angeles Daily News article about a program that addresses higher infant mortality rates among African American women.

David McArthur, an epidemiologist in the department of neurosurgery, was quoted Aug. 28 in a Medscape article about research suggesting that a traumatic brain injury can increase an individual's risk of stroke.

Dr. Karen Miotto, professor of clinical psychiatry and director of the alcoholism and addiction medicine service in the Semel Institute, commented July 28 in a Los Angeles Times health blog about whether “cold-turkey” alcohol detoxification can turn fatal.

John Piacentini, professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Childhood OCD, Anxiety and Tic Disorders Program at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a July 28 Los Angeles Daily News article about obsessive-compulsive disorder.

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