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Neurosurgeon Saves Vet from Paralysis

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Healing Our Nation's Wounded Warriors

BRIEFS
QUOTABLES

Docs 'Vacuum' Huge Clot from Patient's Heart
The Thousand Oaks Acorn, New York Daily News, India TV News and India’s Parda Phash Sept. 26; the U.K.'s Daily Mail Sept. 25; India’s Business Standard Sept. 24; Healthline News Sept. 23; Popular Science, Salon, the International Business Times and domain-b Sept. 20; and Health2Fit and Asian News International Sept. 19 reported on a minimally invasive procedure performed at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in which doctors used a new device to ‘vacuum’ a 24-inch blood clot from a patient’s heart, sparing him from open-heart surgery. The patient’s interventional radiologist, Dr. John Moriarty, and cardiothoracic surgeon, Dr. Murray Kwon, were quoted in the coverage.

Internet Abuzz with Thomson Reuters Nobel Prize Predictions
The Scientist, Reuters, The Telegraph (U.K), Tucson News Now, Telegraph India, KTRE-TV (Philadelphia), the Sacramento Bee and many others Sept. 25 featured Thomson Reuters’ annual predictions of Nobel prize winners, based on their Citation Laureate study, which this year includes UCLA’s Dr. Dennis Slamon, director of the Revlon/UCLA Women’s Cancer Research Program, director of clinical and translational research at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, and executive vice chair for research in the department of medicine, as a possible winner of the 2013 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his pioneering work in developing molecularly targeted therapies that led to the breast cancer drug Herceptin. Slamon was also interviewed Sept. 24 in a Thomson Reuters podcast regarding his selection by them as a Citation Laureate.

UCLA Doctor Saves Choking Diner
On Sept. 25, the Associated Press and KPCC 89.3FM interviewed Dr. Paul Krogstad, professor of pediatric infectious diseases and pharmacology at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, who assisted Dr. Royce Johnson, adjunct professor of infectious diseases at the Geffen School, in saving the life of woman who was choking at a restaurant in Bakersfield. Krogstad and Johnson, who were participating in a Valley Fever symposium, were cited in numerous reports including the Los Angeles Times, New York Daily News, Fox News, Washington Post, Bakersfield Californian, and others.

Medicare and the Affordable Care Act
Dr. Dylan Roby, director of the health economics and evaluation research program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, and an assistant professor at the Fielding School of Public Health, was featured widely in the media regarding the implementation and implications of the Affordable Care Act. Coverage included a Sept. 20 interview on KNBC-Channel 4, Al Jazeera America, and an interview on San Francisco’s KCBS 790AM; Sept. 21 in the Los Angeles Daily News; a Sept. 23 interview on KPCC 89.3FM; and Sept. 25 in California Healthline. Separately, Roby was quoted in a Sept. 20 Scripps-Howard News Service article about concierge medical practices.

Alzheimer’s Imaging Study Grabs Attention
Health News Digest and Scrub Report Sept. 23; Medical Xpress, Science Daily, Alzheimer’s Reading Room and Medical Horizons Sept. 24; Spire Healthcare and News-Medical Sept. 25, and Radiology Daily Sept. 26 reported on a study by Dr. Dan Silverman, professor of molecular and medical pharmacology, that showed early imaging and diagnosis of Alzheimer’s leads to changes in patient care and better outcomes.

Latinos, Health and the Affordable Care Act
The El Paso Times reported Sept. 20 on research by Dr. David Hayes-Bautista, professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, and director of the UCLA Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, examining health and health care among Latinos in the U.S. The Los Angeles Daily News reported Sept. 21 on Hayes-Bautista's research on elderly Latinos and Medicare. Hayes-Bautista was quoted in the coverage.

Technology Site Examines Facebook as a Tool for HIV Prevention
Medgadget reported Sept. 26 on a study led by Dr. Sean Young, assistant professor of family medicine and director of innovation at the Center for Behavior and Addiction Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, that found that Facebook discussion groups helped men at high risk of HIV infection increase healthy behaviors and get tested for HIV. Young was quoted.

Swallowing Exercises Benefit Head & Neck Cancer Patients
Medwire News reported Sept. 20 on a study from UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center (JCCC) showing that head and neck cancer patients who complied with a protocol of swallowing exercises during and after their radiation treatments were able to better maintain their swallowing ability after treatment. Dr. Marilene Wang, JCCC member and professor-in-residence of head and neck surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA led the study and was quoted in the coverage.

No Tobacco and No E-Cigarettes
Linda Sarna, Lulu Wolf-Hassenplug Endowed Chair in Nursing, was interviewed about the negative side of e-cigarettes and their ban on the UCLA Campus Sept. 19 on KCRW 89.9FM’s “Which Way LA?”

Poverty Panel Promoted
A panel hosted by the School of Nursing on the impact of poverty on children was featured in a Sept. 23 Huffington Post story.

When Critical Care is ‘Futile’
Health Data Management Sept. 25, the Dallas Morning News Sept. 23 and AMN Healthcare News Sept. 17 reported on a study that examined the cost and frequency of critical-care patients receiving treatments that doctors do not feel will save or meaningfully improve their lives. Dr. Thanh Huynh, clinical instructor of pulmonary and critical care medicine, and Dr. Neil Wenger, professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research and director of the UCLA Healthcare Ethics Center, were quoted.

Radio Program Highlights Gambling Addiction
Dr. Timothy Fong, an associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and co-director of the Gambling Studies Program, was featured Sept. 11 on the nationally syndicated radio show Real Money with David Holland. Fong discussed gambling addiction, its dangers, and what people can do if they feel they need treatment.

Media Highlight UCLA Report that Pesticide Regulation Is Flawed
Dr. John Froines, professor emeritus of environmental health sciences at the Fielding School of Public Health, and UCLA professor of law Timothy Malloy, were featured in the media regarding their authorship of a UCLA Sustainable Technology and Policy Program study. The study highlighted significant flaws with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation’s evaluation and approval process, and recommended changes to better protect public health. Coverage included Sept. 23 articles by Phys.org, Science Daily, and Science Codex; Sept. 24 in the Salinas Californian, the Mariposa Sierra Sun Times, and KCSN-85.5 FM; and Sept. 25 in Allgov.com. Froines was also quoted in a Sept. 23 Huffington Post article about a separate study that found pesticides may cause lower birth weight.

OC Newspaper Runs Op-Ed about Medicare
An op-ed by Dr. Gerald Kominski, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and a professor at the Fielding School of Public Health, appeared in the Sept. 20 Orange County Register. Kominski argued that unsustainable growth in health care spending is the biggest threat to Medicare.

Redeye Asks if Sexual Addiction is the Real Deal
Dr. Nicole Prause, a researcher in the department of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Sept 22 Redeye Chicago article regarding her study that examined brain responses to sex-related pictures in individuals who could be considered to be suffering from a sexual "addiction."

Huff Post Shares an Attitude about Gratitude
A Sept. 20 Huffington Post article about teaching the brain new ways of thinking highlighted research by the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center indicating that individuals who concentrate on giving thanks each day tend to be healthier and happier.

New York Radio Notes that Recession Hit Boomers Hard
New York's WOR 710AM reported Sept. 22 on a study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the Fielding School of Public Health showing that during the recent recession, middle-aged Californians lost their jobs and the health benefits that came with those jobs in greater numbers than other age groups.

Why Some Patients See Better through One Eye
Medscape reported Sept. 24 on a new study by Dr. Stacy Pineles, assistant professor of ophthalmology at the Jules Stein Eye Institute. Her findings shed light on why some people with strabismus, or misaligned eyes, sometimes close one eye to see better--even if they don't suffer double vision. Published in JAMA Ophthalmology, her research offers an easy way for doctors to measure and monitor visual function in patients with strabismus. Pineles was quoted.

Neurosurgeon Saves Vet from Paralysis
A columnist for the Veterans News Service Los Angeles published a Sept. 21 first-person account of his experience undergoing decompression spinal surgery at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, to prevent paralysis. Dr. Daniel Lu, assistant professor of neurosurgery and orthopedic surgery, performed the minimally invasive procedure.

Whooping Cough is Back
Dr. James Cherry, professor of pediatric infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was interviewed Sept. 24 on KPCC-89.3 FM's "Take Two" about a resurgence of whooping cough in California.

Healing Our Nation's Wounded Warriors
KCMR 97.9FM (Rochester, Minn. and Mason City, Iowa) interviewed Melanie Gideon, manager of the UCLA Operation Mend program, on Sept. 24 about the medical services provided by UCLA to members of the military who were injured in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Operation Mend is collaboration with the Brooke Army Medical Center and the V.A. Greater Los Angeles Health System.

BRIEFS
Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was cited Sept. 12 in a Crowdfund Insider article about singer Avril Lavigne's new CrowdFund campaign to raise at least $50,000 to support the hospital's music therapy program.

QUOTABLES
Dr. Gregg Fonarow, UCLA's Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted Sept. 26 in a HealthDay News article about research on a blood thinner that has risks when used by patients with mechanical heart valves.

Dr. John Froines, professor of environmental health sciences at the Fielding School of Public Health and director of UCLA's Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, was quoted in a Sept. 21 Daily Breeze article about a campaign by California state Sen. Ted Lieu (D-Redondo Beach) to get airplanes to use unleaded fuel.

Dr. Alison Grimes, assistant professor of head and neck surgery and director of the UCLA Audiology Clinic, was quoted in a Sept. 23 NBC News.com article about how exposure to loud noise, like a stadium of cheering sports fans, can permanently damage hearing.
Dr. Jason Hove, family medicine physician at the UCLA-Torrance medical practice, commented Sept. 21 in a Santa Monica Daily Press story about a new drink that may help reduce dehydration and hangover symptoms.

Dr. Paul Krogstad, professor of pediatric infectious diseases and pharmacology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Sept. 21 and Sept. 24 in the Bakersfield Californian about a major two-day symposium in Bakersfield focusing on the fungal disease Valley Fever that was attended by the directors of the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control. He was also quoted Sept. 24 in the Fresno Bee about the need for more researchers to take an interest in studying Valley Fever.

Dr. Tanya Paparella, assistant professor of psychiatry and a director of the Early Childhood Partial Hospitalization Program at the Semel Institute, commented Sept. 22 in a Santa Monica Daily Press article on a recently opened play center serving children with autism.

Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology, was quoted Sep. 26 in a Reuters story about skipping randomized clinical trial testing for drugs that show remarkable efficacy at the Phase I trial stage.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, was quoted in a Sept. 26 Men's Health magazine article about research on brain training techniques that may help stave off cognitive decline.

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