



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT

For the week of Jan. 29-Feb. 4, 2016

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Replacement for BPA in Plastics No Safer

Homicide Rate Cuts Average Male Life Expectancy in Mexico

Nerve Stimulation Offers Hope for PTSD Sufferers

UCLA-Developed Program Helps Military Family Before and After Deployment

Improve Your Brain, Improve the World

Acupuncture Effective for Pediatric Patients

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Replacement for BPA in Plastics No Safer

A UCLA study linking bisphenol S, or BPS, a common replacement for the chemical BPA in plastics, to accelerated embryonic development, premature birth and disturbance of the reproductive tract in animals, was covered Feb. 1 by [CNN.com](#), [Science World Report](#), [Plastics Today](#), [Medical Research](#), [Food Consumer](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Medical News Today](#), [Medical Daily](#), [NewsMax](#), [Tree Hugger](#), [SciCasts](#) and [MedicalXpress](#); Feb. 2 by the [Washington Post](#), [CBSnews.com](#), [Yahoo! Health](#), [United Press International](#), [Woman's Day](#), Quebec's [Huffington Post](#), the U.K.'s [Express](#), [Science Alert](#), [Consumer Affairs](#), [Take Part](#) and [Value Walk](#); and Feb. 3 by [Science.Mic](#) and [Tech Times](#). The CNN report was syndicated by dozens of affiliates nationwide. Senior author Nancy Wayne, UCLA associate vice chancellor of research and a professor of physiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

Homicide Rate Cuts Average Male Life Expectancy in Mexico

[The New York Times](#) reported Feb. 1 on a UCLA Fielding School of Public Health study finding that Mexico's high homicide rate significantly reduced overall male life expectancy in Mexico continued garnering media attention. Hiram Beltrán-Sánchez, a lead investigator on the study and assistant professor of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted.

Nerve Stimulation Offers Hope for PTSD Sufferers

New research into a novel treatment for PTSD by Dr. Andrew Leuchter, a professor of psychiatry and director of the neuromodulation division at the Semel Institute, was covered Feb. 3 by [Discover Magazine](#), [LiveScience](#), and [WAAY-TV](#) (Huntsville, Ala.); Feb. 2 by [WNDU-TV](#) (South Bend, Ind.), and Jan. 29 by [PsychCentral](#).

UCLA-Developed Program Helps Military Family Before and After Deployment

Research validating the effectiveness of the UCLA-developed FOCUS program for helping military families coping with the stresses and strains of deployment was reported Jan. 29 [HCPLive](#). Dr. Patricia Lester, UCLA psychiatry professor and director of the Nathanson Family Resilience Center at the Semel Institute, conducted the study.

Improve Your Brain, Improve the World

C-SPAN's [Book TV](#) aired Jan. 30 and 31 an hour-long book talk presented in November by Dr. Peter Whybrow, director of the Semel Institute and author of "The Well-Tuned Brain: Neuroscience and the Life Well Lived."

Acupuncture Effective for Pediatric Patients

[Practical Pain Management](#) reported Jan. 28 on a study led by Dr. Lonnie Zeltzer, director of the Pediatric Pain program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, which found that acupuncture is just as safe and effective in treating children's pain as adults.

BRIEFS

[Modern Healthcare](#) reported Jan. 23 that Johnese Spisso has been named president of UCLA Health, chief executive officer of the UCLA Hospital System and associate vice chancellor of UCLA Health Sciences.

Research by Steven Cole, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, was cited Jan. 31 in a [Washington Post](#) article about the health hazards of loneliness.

Matt Jans, data quality and survey methodology manager at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited Jan. 30 in a [Modern Healthcare](#) story on the documentation of sexual orientation and gender identity health data in electronic health records.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Deanna Attai, UCLA breast surgeon based in Burbank and assistant clinical professor of surgery, was quoted Feb. 1 in a [CBSNews.com](#) article on new research showing that eating a high-fiber diet as a teen may reduce the risk of breast cancer later in life.

Dr. Roshan Bastani, director of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Healthy and At-Risk Populations Program and director of the UCLA Center for Prevention Research at UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Feb. 2 in a [KPCC 89.3FM](#) report about the low vaccination rates to combat the human papilloma virus (HPV) and the federal government's and physicians' associations' support for vaccinating preteen boys and girls against the sexually transmitted infection.

Dr. Ravi Dave, professor of medicine and director of interventional cardiology at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was quoted Feb. 3 in a [CBSNews.com](#) article about whether a new heart drug was adequately tested during clinical trials.

Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, professor of medicine emeritus/recalled in the division of infectious diseases, was interviewed Feb. 2 in a [KNX 1070AM](#) report about the sexual transmission of the Zika virus.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center and co-chief of the UCLA Division of Cardiology, was quoted Feb. 4 in [HealthDay News](#) about a study suggesting that an "obese" body mass index may not always equate to an unhealthy person -- and that using body size as a sole measure of good health may not always be accurate. However, Fonarow noted that carrying excess weight could still be a health risk.

Michael Jerrett, professor and chair of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Feb. 3 in a [KPCC 89.3FM](#) report about the Porter Ranch gas leak and the independent testing of the air that his team is conducting.

Gerald Kominski, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, commented Jan. 28 in a [Sacramento Bee](#) article about health insurance coverage and penalties for the uninsured. He also commented Feb. 1 on [Darkdaily.com](#) about health reform and insurance markets.

Dr. Michael Lee, associate professor of medicine in the division of cardiology, was quoted in the January/February issue of Cardiology Today's [Intervention](#) magazine about the value of atherectomy, a procedure that cuts, shaves or vaporizes plaque from arteries.

Dr. Jesse Mills, an associate clinical professor of urology and director of UCLA Health: The Men's Clinic, commented Feb. 3 in a [Fusion](#) story on whether going vegan will improve a man's sexual function.

Keith Nuechterlein, psychiatry professor and director of the UCLA Center for Neurocognition and Emotion in Schizophrenia, commented Feb. 3 on KPCC 89.3FM's "[AirTalk](#)" about new research into the causes of schizophrenia.

Dr. Karin Nielsen, professor of clinical pediatrics in the division of infectious diseases, was interviewed Feb. 2 in a KPCC 89.3FM "[Take Two](#)" report about the possible connection between Zika virus and birth defects. She also commented Feb. 3 in a [Fusion](#) story about the sexual transmission of the virus.

Dr. Sheila Sahni, chief fellow in cardiovascular disease at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Feb. 1 in a [Reuters](#) article about gender differences in heart attack patients. Women's heart attacks may be more subtle, Sahni noted, and women tend to be about a decade older than men when they suffer such attacks.

Dr. Daniel Vigil, health sciences associate clinical professor of family medicine, was quoted Jan. 27 in a [Greatist](#) article about how to tell when you had a good workout.

Dr. Karol Watson, co-director of the UCLA Program in Preventive Cardiology and director of the UCLA Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Health Program, was quoted Feb. 3 in a [CBSNews.com](#) article about whether a new heart drug was adequately tested during clinical trials.

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