



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of March 4-10, 2016**

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Fit Pregnancy examines Santa Monica's unique support group

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Hollywood Reporter spotlights Venice Family Clinic's Silver Circle Gala

Sound Body Sound Mind featured across L.A.

Huffington Post spotlights cancer patient's ordeal

Neuroscientist describes TBI-related personality changes, memory loss

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Better way to treat abscesses: Add antibiotic to conventional approach

Bring anesthesiologists into the conversation sooner than later

Zika's link to birth defects receives widespread coverage, including New York Times, Washington Post

[The New York Times](#) and The Washington Post ([here](#) and [here](#)) reported March 4 on new research presenting strong evidence that the Zika virus can cause a range of abnormalities in pregnant women infected with the virus — with the effects manifesting any time during pregnancy. Some of the abnormalities noted have not been reported in connection with the virus. The study, published online March 4 in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, garnered extensive national and international coverage, including March 4 by [USA Today](#), NPR's "Shots," the [Associated Press](#), [Reuters](#), [NBCNews.com](#), the [Wall Street Journal](#), [The Baltimore Sun](#), [Live Science](#), [STAT](#), [The Toronto Star](#) (Canada), [Engaget](#) and [Examiner.com](#); March 5 by [Hoy](#); March 6 by [Good Morning America](#), [O Globo](#) (Brazil) and [Morning Ticker](#) and [EFE News](#); March 7 in [Australia Network](#), [Tech Times](#), [Parent Herald](#), [Health Aim](#), and [Infection Control Today](#); March 8 in [Mysterious Universe](#), and [MicroCap Magazine](#); March 9 in [Scientific American](#), and Australia's [ABC](#). The Reuters story ran in the [Daily Mail](#) (U.K.), [Yahoo! News](#), [The Medical Daily](#), and other outlets. The AP article ran in [The Seattle Times](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), [ABC News.com](#) and others. The study was also cited March 9 in another [New York Times](#) article. Study senior author Dr. Karin Nielsen, professor of clinical pediatrics in the division of pediatric infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in the coverage.

Nearly half of California adults are pre-diabetic and often undiagnosed

A new UCLA study reporting that 46 percent of California adults show early signs of diabetes garnered significant media interest. The research, by the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and the California Center for Public Health Advocacy, was carried March 10 by the [Los Angeles Times](#), [La Opinión](#), [Capital Public Radio News](#), [KSRO-Radio](#), [Times of San Diego](#), [San Bernardino County Sun](#), [Los Angeles Daily News](#), [KTLA-Channel 5](#), [Salinas Californian](#), [Marin Independent Journal](#), [My News LA](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [Inland Empire News](#), and [Record Searchlight](#); and March 9 by [The Sacramento Bee](#), and [The Fresno Bee](#). Susan Babey, co-director of the Chronic Disease Program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and the study's lead researcher, was quoted in the coverage.

UCLA sells royalty rights to a breakthrough cancer drug

The [Los Angeles Times](#) and [CBS 2 Los Angeles](#) March 4, [Canyon News](#) March 5, [MicroCap Magazine](#) March 6 and [Pharma Pro](#) March 7 reported on UCLA selling the royalty rights to the prostate cancer drug Xtandi to Royalty Pharma. Michael Jung, a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and a distinguished professor of chemistry and biochemistry, was cited.

"Try Guys" video on fertility attracts 4.5 million views

BuzzFeed's The Try Guys ([here](#) and [here](#)) visited UCLA Health: The Men's Clinic to discuss male infertility with Dr. Jesse Mills, clinic director and a clinical professor of urology. They had their sperm analyzed to assess whether they were fertile. Both a video and story were posted March 6 on BuzzFeed. So far, the video has been viewed 4.5 million times on youtube.com and Facebook.

Sleep expert advises on ways to adjust to Daylight Saving Time

The [Los Angeles Times](#) and [Examiner.com](#) March 9 and [HealthCanal](#) and [MedicalXpress](#) March 10 reported on tips by Dr. Alon Avidan on the best ways to cope with losing an hour of sleep during the Daylight Savings Time shift. Avidan is director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Center.

Should you store personal information in health apps?

Research by Sarah Blenner, project manager of the Public Health Training Program on Population Health Advocacy at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, about the dangers of personal information stored in health apps was covered March 9 by [HealthZette](#) and [Fox News](#); and March 8 by [The Times of London](#), [Reuters](#), [LiveScience](#), [Pharma Marketing](#), [STAT](#) and [El Pais](#) (Spain).

NPR features innovative Santa Monica urgent care clinic

The UCLA Urgent Care facility in Santa Monica was featured March 8 in an [NPR](#) segment examining patient care at urgent care centers nationwide. Dr. Vladimir Manuel, medical director of the clinic, was quoted in the story.

Santa Clarita physician helps residents digest new dietary guidelines

[Santa Clarita Magazine's](#) April edition published a guest column by Dr. Ramya Malchira, internal medicine specialist and nephrologist with UCLA Health's Santa Clarita practice, to help consumers make sense of new dietary guidelines from the U.S. Departments of Health & Human Services and Agriculture.

Fit Pregnancy examines Santa Monica's unique support group

The bed rest support group available to high-risk expectant moms at The BirthPlace at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was highlighted Feb. 25 by [FitPregnancy.com](#). Social worker Leticia Victorino, who moderates the weekly meetings, was quoted.

UCLA physician's column suggests ways to de-stress for success

Dr. Leena Nathan, obstetrician/gynecologist at UCLA Health-Westlake Village, authored a March 3 column on stress management that appeared in five editions of [The Acorn](#), a weekly newspaper that covers several Conejo Valley communities.

Hollywood Reporter spotlights Venice Family Clinic's Silver Circle Gala

[The Hollywood Reporter](#) March 9 featured Venice Family Clinic's Silver Circle Gala, presented by UCLA Health and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Held on March 7, the gala raised more than \$1.5 million to fund primary health care services for people in need, and honored Brett Ratner of RatPac Entertainment and Bill Flumenbaum of the Capital Group. Larry King was the host; Mariah Carey and Jeffrey Katzenberg were presenters; and Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons performed.

Sound Body Sound Mind featured across L.A.

[KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#) and [KVEA-Channel 52](#) reported March 4 on the grand opening of a fitness center at Belvedere Middle School in East Los Angeles that was donated by UCLA Health Sound Body Sound Mind. The program is dedicated to fighting childhood obesity by installing state-of-the-art fitness programs in underserved middle and high schools. Its founder, Bill Simon, was interviewed.

Huffington Post spotlights cancer patient's ordeal

Michelle Martin, who was diagnosed with a rare form of eye melanoma shortly after the birth of her second child, shared her story March 10 in the [Huffington Post](#) of her treatment by Dr. Tara McCannel, director of the ophthalmic oncology center at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, and the successful surgery that saved both her life and her ability to watch her children grow up.

Neuroscientist describes TBI-related personality changes, memory loss

[LA TheatreWorks](#) aired a March 4 web interview with David Hovda, a professor of neurosurgery and director of the UCLA Brain Injury Research Center, in a segment designed to educate the public about traumatic brain injury. His expert commentary accompanied the broadcast of "Donny's Brain," which is part of the organization's Relatively Series focusing on science-themed plays. The program aired on National Public Radio, including local station KPCC 89.3FM.

New "Elder Index" fact sheet from UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

Research and commentary from Steven P. Wallace, chair and professor of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and associate director at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, about the health of "hidden poor" elders in California was featured March 6 by [KCBS-Radio](#) (San Francisco), March 4 by [Capitol Weekly](#), and March 3 by [California Health Report](#) and [Payers & Providers](#).

Pesticide mixtures may increase health risks but are still unregulated by California

A February 2016 report released by the Sustainable Technology and Policy Program, based in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and UCLA School of Law, highlighting the failure of regulation agencies

to consider additional health effects of pesticides when they are combined, was covered March 5 by the [Monterey Herald](#).

Q&A on Donald Trump's health care vision

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 at the Fielding School, was featured March 4 in a [VICE Magazine](#) Q & A about the implications of Republican candidate Donald Trump's approach to U.S. health care, which would include repealing the Affordable Care Act.

Treating meth addiction with exercise

Research by Edythe London, a professor of psychiatry and molecular and medical pharmacology, into the value of exercise in treating methamphetamine addiction with exercise was reported March 8 by [KABC-Channel 7](#).

Better way to treat abscesses: Add antibiotic to conventional approach

[MedicalXpress](#) reported March 3 on a UCLA study published in the New England Journal of Medicine on better treatment of abscesses. The research indicated that use of a specific antibiotic in addition to surgically draining an abscess gives patients a better chance of recovery and results in fewer recurring infections and fewer people passing on the infection to other members of the household. Dr. David Talan, the study's lead author and a professor in the department of emergency medicine and department of medicine, division of infectious diseases, at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Olive View–UCLA Medical Center; and Dr. Gregory Moran, clinical professor of emergency medicine at the Geffen School, chief of the department of emergency medicine at Olive View-UCLA and one of the study's authors, were quoted.

Bring anesthesiologists into the conversation sooner than later

MedPage Today's [KevinMD.com](#) featured on March 7 a column by Dr. Karen Sibert, clinical instructor of anesthesiology, on the need to build bridges between primary care and anesthesiology to optimize the health and medical outcomes for high-risk patients prior to, during and after surgery.

NOTABLE BRIEFS

UCLA Health's upcoming educational forum about organ donation was publicized March 8 in the Malibu Times.

A sleep fact sheet created by Dr. Alon Avidan was featured March 4 in a [Huffington Post](#) blog on tips for sleeping well. Avidan is a professor of neurology and the director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Center.

A study by the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health about the effects of CicLAVia on city air pollution in nearby streets and communities was cited March 3 in the [Los Angeles Daily News](#).

NOTABLE QUOTABLES

Suraj Bhat, associate professor of ophthalmology and director of the vision molecular biology laboratory at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, commented March 9 in a [CBS News](#) story about a Nature study using a patient's stem cells to grow new corneas in infants born with cataracts.

Brian Cole, adjunct assistant professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted March 6 in a [Los Angeles Daily News](#) article about the first CicLAVia event to be held in the Northeast San Fernando Valley.

Dr. Tamara Horwich, associate clinical professor of cardiology, was quoted Feb. 26 in [Medscape](#) about a study indicating that women are more likely than men to be alive one year after transcatheter aortic-valve replacement (TAVR), despite more vascular complications and major bleeding at 30 days.

Dana Hunnes, a senior dietitian and professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented March 9 in a [MyArkLaMiss.com](#) article about the health effects of applying heat to food.

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 at the Fielding School, commented March 4 in a [California Healthline](#) story about how California's Latino lawmakers drive change regarding immigrant health care issues. The story also cited a joint study by the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and the UC Berkeley Labor Center about the projected growing population of uninsured Californians. The story was also picked March 4 by [KQED](#).

Dr. Michael Lee, associate professor of medicine in the division of cardiology, was quoted March 7 in the [Los Angeles Times](#) about the drug meldonium, allegedly for cardiovascular disease. Context was tennis pro Maria Sharapova acknowledging she has been using the substance.

Dr. Robert Lee, chief of podiatry at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, commented March 1 in a [KABC-Channel 7](#) segment on the ergonomics of a new type of high-heeled shoe that may reduce the stress and strain of traditional stilettos.

Dr. Mario Mendez commented March 9 in a [BBC](#) story on a disorder that causes people to crack jokes nonstop. Mendez is director of neurobehavior at the Veterans Affairs Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System and a professor of neurology and psychiatry at UCLA.

Mayumi Prins, associate director of the UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program and a professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented March 9 in [Scientific American](#) about how concussions affect women's brains differently than men's, and March 4 in [Think Progress](#) about World Cup soccer player Brandi Chastain donating her brain to science for concussion research.

Jerome Siegel, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, commented March 8 in an article in [Today.com](#) about cataplexy, a condition that causes muscle weakness or sleep following particularly emotional experiences.

Dr. Malcom Taw, director of the UCLA Center for East-West Medicine-Westlake Village, was quoted March 1 in a [Wall Street Journal](#) article about popular supplements and risks they may pose when taken with medications or prior to surgery.

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