



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of April 15-21, 2016

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COVERAGE HIGHLIGHTS:

Zika's genetic changes linked to global outbreak

Medicaid expansion study grabs headlines

Gut bacteria could help fight some cancers

New mental health program helps vets suffering from invisible wounds of war

Longer maternity leave linked to better infant health

Why I finally listened to the music in my mind

Physical, mental exercise may help improve schizophrenia's symptoms

Santa Monica geriatrician's column covers fatigue and sleep apnea

New spin on gym class

Using VR technology to 'fly' inside patients' brains

Stuart House fundraiser continues to capture attention

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Zika's genetic changes linked to global outbreak

A new UCLA study suggesting that the Zika virus possesses the ability to mutate rapidly, allowing the current outbreak to spread swiftly around the world, was covered April 15 by [TIME](#), [NBC News](#), [Agence France Presse](#), [Yahoo! News](#), [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [The Scientist](#), [City News Service](#), China's [Xinhua News Agency](#), [My News LA](#), [China Press](#), [Miami's Citizen](#), [Genome Web](#), [AOL's Patch](#), [Drug Target Review](#) and [Columbia's El Pais](#); April 16 by the [Economic Times](#), [Bangkok Post](#) and [Ventures Africa](#); April 17 by [Tech Times](#) and [Pakistan's The Nation](#); April 18 by France's [Futura Sciences](#), [Direct Matin](#) and [Porquoi Docteur?](#), [Times of India](#), and [Drug Discovery and Development](#); and April 19 by [Huffington Post](#) and [Consumer Affairs](#). Senior author Genhong Cheng, a professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics, and coauthor Dr. Stephanie Valderramos, a fellow in obstetrics-gynecology, both at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, were quoted.

Medicaid expansion study garners headlines

[HealthDay News](#), [Kaiser Health News](#) and [Health Canal](#) April 18; [Reuters Health](#), [Medscape](#) (subscription required), [ScienceDaily](#), [Becker's ASC Review](#), [Science Codex](#), [MedicalXpress](#) and [Jobs and Hire](#) April 19; and [News-Medical.net](#) and [YubaNet.com](#) April 20 highlighted new research finding that states that expanded Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act saw a significant increase in rates of health insurance among low-income adults compared with states that did not expand the program. The study

was led by Laura Wherry, assistant professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. The HealthDay article was carried by [Philly.com](#), [CBSNews.com](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), [UPI](#), [Medline Plus](#), and [DoctorsLounge](#), among others. The Reuters story ran in [Business Insider](#), [Channel NewsAsia](#), [Global Post](#), [Big News Network](#), [KDAL 610AM](#) (Duluth, Minn.), [KFGO 790AM](#) (Fargo, N.D.) and others.

Gut bacteria could help fight some cancers

[Medical Research.com](#) ran a Q&A April 15 with Robert Schiestl, professor of pathology, environmental health sciences and radiation oncology, on his study offering evidence that anti-inflammatory “health beneficial” gut bacteria can slow or stop the development of some types of cancer. The study was also covered April 14 in [Drug Discovery & Development](#).

New mental health program helps vets suffering from invisible wounds of war

[Psych Central](#), [MyScience](#), [US Veterans Magazine](#), [Veteran's View](#), and [Women Vets USA](#) reported April 13 that Operation Mend, a UCLA Health program that has offered surgical and medical services to wounded vets since 2007, is expanding its program to offer a new intensive mental health program that will help veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress and TBI. The program will also include the vet's family members. Dr. Jo Sornborger, director of psychological health programs for Operation Mend, and Dr. Thomas Strouse, professor of clinical psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and medical director of the Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital at UCLA, were quoted.

Longer maternity leave linked to better infant health

[USA Today](#) reported April 18 on a study by the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and McGill University finding that that paid maternity leave policies in low- and middle-income countries could help prevent infant deaths.

Why I finally listened to the music in my mind

Dalida Arakelian, founder and director of the Mindful Music program at the Semel Institute, addressed April 14 the psychic value of music in an op-ed in the [Huffington Post](#).

Physical, mental exercise may help improve schizophrenia's symptoms

Research by Keith Nuechterlein, psychiatry professor and director of the UCLA Center for Neurocognition and Emotion in Schizophrenia, into the value of exercise for the cognitive deficits associated with schizophrenia was reported April 15 by the [Beverly Hills Courier](#) and April 21 by [Healio](#). Joe Ventura, a senior research psychologist at the Semel Institute, was quoted.

Santa Monica geriatrician's column covers fatigue and sleep apnea

The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) published April 15 a guest column by Dr. Maija Sanna, geriatrician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and assistant clinical professor, about fatigue caused by sleep apnea.

New spin on gym class

The Riverside [Press-Enterprise](#) featured April 14 a story on a new \$50,000 fitness center at San Jacinto High School that was funded by a joint effort between UCLA Health Sound Body Sound Mind and the Healthy Valley Foundation. Patrick McCredie, manager of Sound Body Sound Mind, was quoted. The UCLA Health program is dedicated to fighting childhood obesity by installing state-of-the-art fitness programs in underserved middle and high schools.

Using VR technology to 'fly' inside patients' brains

[Forbes](#) reported April 20 on a partnership between Dr. Neil Martin, chair of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and a company called Surgical Theater. The business has developed virtual-reality goggles that allow surgeons to journey inside their patients' brains and practice complex procedures before entering the operating room. Martin was quoted.

Stuart House fundraiser continues to capture coverage

The [Hollywood Reporter](#) April 18 and [Footwear News](#) April 20 published stories about a fundraiser hosted by fashion designer John Varvatos to benefit Stuart House, a unique facility at UCLA Medical Center,

Santa Monica that serves sexually abused children and their families. Previous stories appeared in the [Los Angeles Times](#) and [Forbes.com](#).

NOTABLE BRIEFS

Research about the number of California residents who have diabetes, as well as research about the number of California residents who smoke, conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited April 16 in a [Redding Record Searchlight](#) article about local grocers seeking to promote healthy choices.

Data from the California Health Interview survey, conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited April 14 in a [Science Codex](#) article about the potential economic benefits of mental health stigma-reduction in California.

NOTABLE QUOTABLES

Gail Abarbanel, founding director of the Rape Treatment Center and Stuart House at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was quoted April 15 in a [TeenVogue.com](#) story about treatment after a sexual assault.

Suzette Glasner Edwards, an adjunct associate professor at the Semel Institute, commented April 20 in a [RawStory](#) article about evidence that marijuana addiction can be treated with pharmaceuticals.

Dana Ellis Hunnes, senior dietician at Ronald Reagan-UCLA Medical Center and adjunct assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in [Women's Health](#) magazine April 21 on a new non-dairy alternative made from peas.

Alex Korb, an adjunct instructor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, commented April 19 in a [Time](#) round up of tips for changing bad habits.

Dr. Edythe D. London, professor of psychiatry and molecular and medical pharmacology at the Semel Institute and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented April 20 in a [Medscape](#) (subscription required) article about a new neuroimaging study of individuals who had taken LSD.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and director of the UCLA Longevity Center at the Semel Institute, commented April 19 in a [MarketWatch](#) article on potential cognitive benefits of a 25-hour work week.

Diana Winston, director of Mindfulness Education at the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center, commented April 20 in a [Diabetic Lifestyle](#) article about the value of mindfulness practices for controlling diabetes.

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