



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT**  
**For the week of Aug. 14-20, 2015**

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**New Stats on Health Insurance Coverage Receive Widespread Coverage**

The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health released new data from the 2014 California Health Interview, which revealed an increase in the number of California

adults who have health insurance, compared to the uninsured rate from the survey's 2013 findings. This and other survey data were featured by the following news outlets:

- [SCV News](#) and [Sierra Sun Times](#) on Aug. 19 about how the number of Californians without health insurance declined by 15 percent.
- [KPBS Radio News](#) on Aug. 19 and [MyNewsLA.com](#) on Aug. 18 about California's record-low uninsured rate.
- [California Healthline](#) on Aug. 19 and [The Sacramento Bee](#) on Aug. 18 about the rise in diabetes and obesity rates among California adults.
- [PSFK](#) on Aug. 14 about Santa Monica's efforts to design itself as a happier place and improve quality of life.

### **Study on Rehabilitating the Heart Receives Wide Coverage**

A study by Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, showing that only one-in-10 heart failure patients are referred to a cardiac rehabilitation program after being hospitalized was reported widely by the media. The study noted there is strong evidence that such exercise programs improve quality of life and reduce the likelihood of future hospitalizations. Coverage included [United Press International](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Imperial Valley News](#), [News-Medical.net](#) and [MedicalXpress](#) Aug. 18, [HealthDay News](#) Aug 19 and [Medscape](#) Aug. 20.

### **Globe Explores What Makes People Gay**

Dr. Eric Vilain and his research on epigenetics and sexual attraction were featured Aug. 23 in a [Boston Globe Magazine](#) article about what makes people gay. Matt Bramble, a graduate student in Vilain's lab, was also quoted. Vilain is a professor of human genetics, pediatrics and urology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of the UCLA Center for Gender-based Biology.

### **Kids Should Play Sports—but Don't Focus on Just One**

[USA Today](#) published Aug. 14 an op-ed co-written by Dr. John DiFiori, professor and chief of the UCLA Division of Sports Medicine and Non-Operative Orthopaedics, encouraging young boys and girls to participate in more than one sport rather than focusing on just one, which can lead to overuse injuries, loss of interest in participation or burnout.

### **Wired Extols UCLA Prof's Witty Tweets**

The Twitter feed of UCLA researcher Dr. Leonid Kruglyak was highlighted Aug. 18 by [Wired](#) as one of the best 27 feeds to follow in the world of science. He is a professor of human genetics and biological chemistry at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator and a founding member of the UCLA Computational Biosciences Institute.

### **UCLA Sleep Expert Guests on Bill Carroll Show**

KFI 640 AM's Bill Carroll Show ([Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)) featured Aug. 11 Dr. Christopher Colwell, professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, in two segments on what results from a lack of regular sleep.

### **\$2.5 Million Geriatrics Training Grant**

[News-Medical.net](#) highlighted Aug. 14 a three-year, \$2.5 million grant the UCLA Division of Geriatrics received from the Health Resources and Services Administration to enhance geriatric education, training and workforce development in Riverside County, through a partnership with the UC Riverside School of Medicine and others in the county.

### **Media Tap Health Policy Expert**

Dr. Gerald Kominski, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented about issues relating to healthcare by the following news outlets:

- [KPCC](#) on Aug. 18 about the differences in coverage and cost for pregnant women across HMO and PPO healthcare plans.
- [Health Leaders Media](#) on Aug. 12 about the lack of existing guidelines to measure healthcare network adequacy.

- [Healthcare Dive](#) on Aug. 12 about the impact of new transitional care providers on health insurance.

### **Urologist Featured in Story on Palliative Care for Prostate Cancer**

An [OncoLive](#) story featured Aug. 11 Dr. Jonathan Bergman, an assistant professor of urology and family medicine at the Veterans Health Affairs of Greater Los Angeles and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, in a story about palliative care for prostate cancer patients.

### **Stroke Study Gains Coverage**

[Examiner.com](#), [HealthCanal](#) and [Imperial Valley News](#) reported Aug. 17 and [MedicalXpress](#) reported Aug. 18 on a study that found speedy treatment with a new-generation stent clot retrieval device results in greatly improved outcomes, and that even a five-minute delay negatively affects patients. Dr. Sunil Sheth, a fellow in radiological sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Dr. Jeffrey Saver, director of the UCLA Stroke Center, were quoted.

### **Ovarian Cancer Study Continues to Garner Coverage**

(e) [Science News](#) and [ASCO Post](#) reported Aug. 7 on a study by Dr. Sanaz Memarzadeh that uncovered the reason ovarian cancers recur and become resistant to chemotherapy. Memarzadeh is a gynecologic cancer surgeon, an associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology and director of the G.O. Discovery Lab.

### **Dr. Janet Pregler Highlighted by DotMed**

[DotMed's Healthcare Business News](#) featured Aug. 14 a Q & A with Dr. Janet Pregler, a professor of clinical medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of the Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center.

### **Cancer Researcher Discusses "Chemo Brain"**

Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of Cancer Prevention and Control Research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Aug. 19 in a [U.S. News & World Report](#) article on "chemo brain," the mental fog that cancer patients can experience due to chemotherapy.

### **Superheroes Surprise Pediatric Patients**

[Santa Monica Mirror](#) and [Westside Today](#) featured Aug. 14 the third annual Superhero Day at UCLA in which window cleaners from Sunland Window Cleaning dressed as Batman, Captain America, Spider Man, Wonder Woman and The Hulk descended on their platform down the hospital's wall and then visited with pediatric patients. Kellye Carroll, director of the Chase Child Life program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted.

### **Volunteers Provide Critical Medical Care in Haiti**

The [California Family Physician](#) published Aug. 17 an article by Dr. David Cutler, UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica family medicine physician and assistant clinical professor, on a one-week trip to Haiti to conduct a study on teledermatology. Nine volunteers examined patients with chronic skin conditions and performed other skin tests on 102 patients, and provided information and photos to consulting dermatologists at UCLA who made diagnoses and treatment recommendations that were passed on to the patients.

### **Geriatrician's Column Offers Advice for Another Type of Summertime Burn**

The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) published Aug. 14 a column from Dr. Grace Chen, staff geriatrician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and assistant clinical professor of medicine, about the internal burning known as gastroesophageal reflux disease or GERD.

### **Teens, Kids Win When Mental Health Providers Team with Pediatricians, Family Doctors**

A meta-analysis of integrated care for youth by Dr. Joan Asarnow, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Youth Stress and Mood Program, and Dr. Lonnie Zeltzer, distinguished professor of pediatrics, anesthesiology, psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences and director of the

Pediatric Pain and Palliative Care Program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was covered Aug. 13 in [Healio](#) and Aug. 16 in [Sierra Sun Times](#).

## BRIEFS

[KRISTV](#) noted Aug. 19 that Dr. Richard Jackson, professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, would be the keynote speaker at an Aug. 27 luncheon featuring a discussion about urban design and public policy.

Research led by Dr. Neal Halfon, director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, on how parental expectations affect the future success of a child, was cited Aug. 20 on [Yahoo! Parenting](#).

[The Jerusalem Post](#) cited Aug. 20 a commentary co-written by Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and of public health at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, about how male circumcision can help reduce the spread of HIV. The commentary was published in the Israel Journal of Health Policy Research.

## QUOTABLES

Dr. Ronald Busuttill, executive chairman of the department of surgery and director of the Dumont-UCLA Transplant and Liver Cancer Center, was quoted Aug. 13 in the [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) about former President Jimmy Carter's cancer diagnosis. Carter revealed that he had a tumor removed from his liver and cancer was found in other parts of his body.

Dr. Timothy Fong, an associate clinical professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship, commented Aug. 20 in a [NPR Morning Edition](#) report on the promise of the anti-addiction medication Vivitrol.

Dr. Helen Lavretsky, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted Aug. 16 in a [New York Times](#) article about the increasing mainstream acceptance of 'sound baths' to relieve stress, reduce anxiety and address other ills.

Dr. Walter Ling, professor of psychiatry and founding director of the UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs, was quoted Aug. 19 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about a new push from the White House to combat the nation's growing problem with heroin addiction.

Dr. Aurelia Nattiv, professor of family medicine and orthopaedic surgery, division of sports medicine and nonoperative orthopaedics, was quoted July 28 in a [Women's Health](#) magazine article on how to distinguish between harmless workout pain and actual injury.

Dr. Lonnie Zeltzer, distinguished professor of pediatrics, anesthesiology, psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences and director of the Pediatric Pain and Palliative Care Program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented Aug. 14 in a [Huffington Post](#) article about the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval of the painkiller OxyContin for use in children ages 11 to 16 years who suffer from severe pain.

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