



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Oct. 2 – 8, 2015

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Spanish Language Television Explores Health Issues of Latinos

Benefits of Going Smoke-Free

Technology Improves Care for Breast Cancer Survivors

Gay, Bisexual Men Report Higher Rates of Indoor Tanning and Skin Cancer

Pricing of Prescription Medications

Millions to Die of Air Pollution

Improving Neurocognitive Outcomes Following Heart Surgery

Editorial Featured by Healio

Santa Monica Daily Press Features UCLA Stroke Specialist

Surgeon, Anthropologist Lead Effort to Bridge Western Health

BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

FDA Approves Game-Changing Immunotherapy Drug to Fight Lung Cancer

[Wall Street Journal](#), [Associated Press](#), [NBC News](#), [Reuters](#), [Bloomberg](#), [ABC 7 LA](#), and [Healio](#) reported Oct. 2 and [NYC Today](#) and [India Medical Times](#) reported Oct. 3 on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval of the breakthrough drug Keytruda to treat advanced non-small cell lung cancer, signaling a paradigm shift in the way the deadliest of all cancers is treated. The treatment was also approved to treat advanced melanoma last year. Dr. Edward Garon, associate clinical professor of hematology and oncology and member of UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted.

Fructose Sabotages Brain's Ability to Heal

A new study by Fernando Gomez-Pinilla, a professor of neurosurgery and integrative biology and physiology at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and College of Letters and Science, finding that

processed fructose interferes with recovery from traumatic brain injury, was reported Oct. 6 by [Nutrition Insight](#); Oct. 5 by [CBS News](#), [Yahoo Health](#), [Red Orbit](#), and [Physical Therapy Products](#); Oct. 4 by [GeekSided](#); Oct. 3 by [Psych Central](#) and the [Indo-Asian News Service](#); and Oct. 2 by [Bioscience Technology](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Science Blog](#) and [Laboratory Equipment](#). The IANS story was syndicated Oct. 3 by India's [Business Standard](#), [Times of India](#), [New Kerala](#), [Can-India News](#), [Zee News](#), [The Statesman](#) and [Free Press Journal](#). The CBS News segment aired on 14 affiliates, including Louisville, Ky., Flint, Mich. and Nashville, Tenn. Three ABC news affiliates and one Fox affiliate also aired the story.

Effectiveness of Immunotherapy Drugs in Killing Cancer

[U.S. News and World Report](#) reported Oct. 6 on treating cancer patients with several drug therapies recently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration that use the immune system to attack cancer cells. Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of hematology and oncology and director of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center's Tumor Immunology Program, was quoted.

Spanish Language Television Explores Health Issues of Latinos

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor and vice chair of the Department of Family Medicine, was interviewed Oct. 5 by [Telemundo](#) about efforts to understand the roots of violence as a public health problem. He was also interviewed by [Univision](#) on the increasing rates of diabetes as part of Binational Health Week, a joint effort by government and academia to improve the health and well-being of the underserved Latino population living in the United States and Canada.

Benefits of Going Smoke-Free

The [Los Angeles Business Journal](#) featured Oct. 5 a project by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health that examined the health and cost benefits of smoke-free policies in multi-unit housing complexes.

Technology Improves Care for Breast Cancer Survivors

Dr. Patricia Ganz, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, director of Cancer Prevention and Control Research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and a professor of medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was featured Oct. 7 in a [AZoSensors.com \(AZoNetwork\)](#) article and Oct. 6 in [Medical Xpress](#) for her collaborative work on "Share the Journey," a mobile app that allows breast cancer survivors to track their symptoms and better understand the human cost of cancer treatment.

Gay, Bisexual Men Report Higher Rates of Indoor Tanning and Skin Cancer

[Medical Daily](#) covered Oct. 7 a California Health Interview Survey, conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, that found gay and bisexual men are twice as likely as heterosexual men to report having skin cancer and six times more likely to report having used indoor tanning beds.

Pricing of Prescription Medications

A business column in the [Los Angeles Times](#) featured Oct. 2 an article on the high cost of an expensive brand-name drug prescribed to a pediatric patient. The column also described an error on the patient's bill, which the hospital offered to amend.

Millions to Die of Air Pollution

Dr. Michael Jerrett, chair and professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Oct. 6 in a [Clean Technica](#) article about a study that revealed the harmful effects of toxic, aerosolized fine particles and related deaths worldwide.

Improving Neurocognitive Outcomes Following Heart Surgery

The September issue of [Cardiology Today](#) featured a perspective authored by Dr. Richard Shemin, professor and chief of cardiac surgery at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, describing advancements in efforts to minimize neurocognitive dysfunction in older patients following any type of major surgery.

Editorial Featured by Healio

[Healio](#) reported Oct. 3 on an editorial written by Dr. Elaine Y. Cheng, a general surgeon at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine, and Dr. Ronald W. Busuttil, William P. Longmire Jr. chair in surgery and founding chief of the division of liver and pancreas transplantation at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine, about a study on liver transplantation for cancer patients.

Santa Monica Daily Press Features UCLA Stroke Specialist

The [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) reported Oct. 2 on Dr. Jeffrey Saver winning the American Neurological Association's Soriano Leadership Award. Saver is director of the UCLA Comprehensive Stroke Center.

Surgeon, Anthropologist Lead Effort to Bridge Western Health

The October issue of [Perrault Magazine](#) (p. 82) featured a story on UCLA faculty members who are part of an International program to examine how Westernized healthcare can intersect with local traditional healing practices and beliefs in certain areas of Latin American countries. Dr. Reza Jarrahy, associate clinical professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery at UCLA, Bonnie Taub, a lecturer in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and Jennifer Guzman, project director in the Department of Family Medicine at UCLA, were quoted.

BRIEFS

A joint study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and UC Berkeley's Labor Center was cited Oct. 4 in [Daily Republic Fairfield-Suisun](#) and Oct. 2 in [Vallejo Times-Herald](#) stories about proposed federal and state policies that would extend health care options to undocumented immigrants.

The [Marin Independent Journal](#) cited Oct. 5 a study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health which found 95 percent of California first-graders who need glasses do not have them.

[California Healthline](#) noted Oct. 2 a study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, which found only about one-third of California community health clinics offer dental services on-site.

The California Health Interview Survey, conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited Oct. 2 in a [Government Technology](#) article and Oct. 1 by [California HealthCare Foundation](#) for its report that 15 percent of children in California have asthma.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Alexander Bystritsky, professor of psychiatry in residence at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Anxiety Disorders Program, commented Oct. 4 in [NBCNews.com](#) and Oct. 5 in [Latinos Health](#) about doubts surrounding the current state of DNA testing for psychiatric disorders.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted Oct. 1 in [MedPage Today](#) regarding the FDA's call for doctors to enroll more heart failure patients in clinical trials. Fonarow was also quoted Oct. 5 in [HealthDay News](#) on a study indicating that some people on blood pressure drugs called beta blockers may face heightened risks of heart complications during non-cardiac surgeries.

Dr. Timothy Fong, an associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and co-director of the Gambling Studies Program, was interviewed Oct. 7 on [Marketplace](#) in a piece about calls for governmental regulations of fantasy sports.

Dr. Nelson Freimer, Maggie G. Gilbert professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, director of the UCLA Center for Neurobehavioral Genetics and the associate director of the Semel Institute, was quoted Oct. 7 in [Inside Higher Ed](#) about the institute's Grand Challenge for Depression.

Dr. Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the Late-Life Depression, Stress, and Wellness Research Program, commented Oct. 6 in a [JamaNetwork](#) article about the promise of mindfulness in medicine.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and director of the UCLA Longevity Center at the Semel Institute, was quoted Oct. 3 in the [New York Times](#) about the benefits of downsizing as individuals age.

Dr. Nadereh Pourat, adjunct professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of research at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, commented Oct. 7 in a [KPCC-89.3 FM](#) story that "conciierge" doctors who treat cash-only patients and forgo those with insurance lack oversight and accountability.

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, faculty associate at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Oct. 2 in a [KCRW-89.9 FM](#) broadcast about My Health LA, a Los Angeles County program that provides primary health care to undocumented immigrants.

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, commented Oct. 3 in the [Los Angeles Times](#) and Oct. 2 in [California Healthline](#) and [Fox News Latino](#) that California leads the nation in providing low-cost, government-run healthcare to undocumented immigrants. The L.A. Times article was syndicated Oct. 7 in [The Bulletin](#) (OR) and Oct. 6 in the [Appeal-Democrat \(Marysville\)](#). In addition, Wallace spoke Oct. 5 on [Radio Bilingue](#) about migrant health.

Dr. Yifang Zhu, associate professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Oct. 2 in a [Food World News](#) article about how microwaving popcorn produces ultrafine particles that may present health hazards.

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