



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT**  
**For the week of Oct. 30-Nov. 5, 2015**

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**Patients, Staff, and even Dogs, Celebrate Halloween**

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**Consistent Source of Health Care is Key Factor in Limiting Kids' Repeat Visits to the Hospital**

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**Prostate Cancer Treatment Study Draws Attention**

[Medical News Today](#), [DotMed.com](#), [News-Medical.net](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [Science Codex](#), [Health News Digest](#), [My Informs](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Health Headlines](#) and [Newspaper Post](#) Nov. 3, [AJMC](#), [ASCO Post](#), [RadOnc Weekly](#), [Wn.com](#) and [Topix](#) Nov. 4, and [Medscape](#), [MDLinx](#) and [HealthCanal](#) Nov. 5 reported on a study by Dr. Aaron Laviana that analyzed the costs of treating low risk prostate cancer. Laviana is a fifth year urology resident.

**Patients, Staff, and even Dogs, Celebrate Halloween**

[Estrella TV Channel 62](#), [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KTLA-Channel 5](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#) and [KCAL-Channel 9](#) featured Oct. 30 stories on the annual Halloween parade held at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA in which almost 70 UCLA departments handed out treats to pediatric patients dressed in costumes. The event also featured costumed dogs from UCLA's People-Animal Connection animal-assisted therapy

program. Kellye Carroll, director of the Chase Child Life program at UCLA, and Karleen Wray, child life specialist, were interviewed by the media.

### **From Hollywood to Berlin, Fielding School Faculty Member Promotes the Power of Storytelling**

Dr. Neal Baer, adjunct professor of community health sciences and co-director of the Global Media Center for Social Impact at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Oct. 30 by [NPR Berlin](#) for his work at the center using storytelling to bring awareness of important health issues to the public.

### **Consistent Source of Health Care is Key Factor in Limiting Kids' Repeat Visits To the Hospital**

[News-Medical.net](#), [DOTMed](#), [Science Codex](#) and [MedicalXpress](#) reported Nov. 4 on a new UCLA study which found that having a routine place to receive sick and well care was the most reliable predictor of whether a child would be readmitted to a hospital or emergency room within a month after being discharged. The study also found that parents' level of confidence in their children's continued good health was closely correlated with whether the child would be readmitted. Study co-author, Dr. Thomas Klitzner, professor of pediatric cardiology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and executive director of the UCLA Pediatric Medical Home Program, and the study's lead author Dr. Ryan Coller, a former UCLA faculty member who now is an assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, were quoted.

### **Thyroid Hormones Found in Weight-Loss Products**

[Medscape](#) (subscription required) reported Oct. 26 on new research finding that over-the-counter weight-loss supplements commonly contain unlabeled and clinically significant levels of thyroid hormones, including thyroxine (T4) and triiodothyronine (T3), posing potentially serious health risks to users unaware of the contents, according to new research. First author Christian D. Seger, a medical student at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Dr. Angela M. Leung, assistant professor of medicine in the division of endocrinology and the study's senior author, were quoted.

### **Channel 2 Features Sleep Expert**

[KCBS Channel 2](#) (and [here](#)) Nov. 2 aired a story on sleep disorders that featured Dr. Alon Avidan, director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Center.

### **Neurologist Interviewed on KFI**

[KFI 640AM](#) (and [here](#)) Dr. Mario Mendez was a featured guest Nov. 4 on KFI's Bill Carroll Show to discuss Lewy Body Dementia, which actor Robin Williams was found to have had following an autopsy.

### **Scleroderma Lung Study Examines Treatment**

[Medscape](#) (subscription required) reviewed Nov. 2 a study that compared two types of drugs used for the immunosuppressive treatment of scleroderma-related interstitial lung disease. The study's co-author, Dr. Donald Tashkin, a professor of pulmonology and critical care, was quoted.

### **Do Nasal Balloons Prevent Ear Infections?**

CBS's [The Doctors](#) examined Nov.4 the effectiveness of nasal balloons in preventing ear infections. Dr. Nina Shapiro, a professor of head and neck surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was a guest on the segment.

### **Want to Know the Air Quality? There's an App for that!**

[Examiner.com](#) and [Environmental News Services](#) Oct. 24 and [KPCC 89.3FM](#) Oct. 23 reported on a new free app that lets users find out the level of air quality before they head outside to exercise or play. Called AirForU, the app was developed by the UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability and UCLA Health. Dr. Sande Okelo, director of the Pediatric Asthma Center at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted.

### **Stroke Study Continues to Draw Coverage**

[American Bazaar](#) and [Web Wire](#) Oct. 28, [Neurology Advisor](#) Oct. 29, and [Physical Therapy Products](#) Nov. 4 reported on a study by Dr. S. Thomas Carmichael that found the brain emits a growth factor after stroke

that helps with recovery. Carmichael is a professor and vice chair for research and programs in the UCLA Department of Neurology.

### **UCLA Launches Long-Term Depression Initiative**

UCLA's evolving Depression Grand Challenge, helmed by Dr. Nelson Freimer, professor of psychiatry at UCLA and associate director for research programs of the Semel Institute, was the subject of articles that appeared Oct. 28 in [FollowNews](#), [News-Medical.net](#) and [WorldNews](#) and Nov. 2 in [Sierra Sun Times](#).

### **Fielding School-led Survey Reveals Health Disparity Specifics**

The California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Nov. 3 by [New America Media](#) for findings that indicate ongoing health disparities for Latinos and African-Americans in California.

## **BRIEFS**

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was mentioned Nov. 5 in a [Jewish Journal](#) article on Holocaust survivor Marianne Roth, a long-time volunteer at the medical center.

Marjorie Kagawa-Singer, professor emerita of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and of Asian American Studies, was mentioned Nov. 2 in the [St. Paul Asian American Press](#) as recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Asian & Pacific Islander Caucus for Public Health.

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center were mentioned Nov. 4 in a [Patch.com](#) article on area hospitals' ranking in a recent Leapfrog survey on patient safety. The Santa Monica hospital received an "A," the highest ranking. Ronald Reagan received a "C."

## **QUOTABLES**

Dr. James Cherry, a distinguished research professor of pediatrics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and attending physician of pediatric infectious diseases at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented Nov. 3 in a [Reuters Health](#) article about a study done in Denmark that found kids who were diagnosed with pertussis, or "whooping cough," in early childhood appeared to have an increased risk of epilepsy later in childhood. His comments also appeared Nov. 4 in a [Medical Daily](#) story.

Dr. Christopher Evans, director of UCLA's Brain Research Institute and a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, was quoted Oct. 31 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about the neuroscience of fear.

Dr. Jonathan Fielding, professor-in-residence of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and co-director of the UCLA Center for Health Advancement, commented Nov. 2 on [TODAY.com](#) about the presence of E.coli in restaurant foods. The article was re-published Nov. 3 by [KFDX-TV \(Wichita Falls, Texas\)](#).

Deidre Keeves, director of Health IT Adoption and Engagement at UCLA Health, commented Nov. 4 in a [USA Today](#) column about the differences between east coast and west coast healthcare technology businesses.

Dr. Anna-Barbara Moscicki, chief of adolescent and young adult medicine and professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented Nov. 4 in a [CBS News](#) online story about how parents can talk with their teens about sex.

Jerome Siegel, professor of psychiatry at UCLA's Semel Institute and director of the Center for Sleep Research at UCLA, was quoted Oct. 29 in a [BBC](#) report on the sleep habits of animals.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and director of the UCLA Longevity Center at the Semel Institute, commented Nov. 2 in a [South China Post](#) article about the rise of “digital dementia” in Web-mad Hong Kong.

Dr. Brennan Spiegel, professor-in-residence of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented Nov. 2 in [MedCity News](#) article about developments in digital health.

Fred Zimmerman, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Nov. 1 in [The Hays Daily News](#) about the effect of television and mobile technology on parenting.

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