New Method to Track Brain Aging Draws Headlines

PET Probe Hailed as Life-Changing Technology by Forbes

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New Method to Track Brain Aging Draws Headlines
Scientists combined innovative PET brain scans with patient-specific Alzheimer's disease risk factors to help diagnose early brain aging prior to symptoms. KNBC-Channel 4 on Jan. 5, and Xinhua (China) News Service and the Daily Breeze on Jan. 6 reported the findings, which were published in the January issue of the Archives of General Psychiatry. Author Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, was quoted. The Xinhua report also appeared in People's Daily Newspaper (China) and The Hindu (India).

"U.S. Researchers Say Brain Scans Can Detect Early Signs of Alzheimer's Disease"
http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-01/06/content_10611747.htm

"UCLA Researchers Use Brain Scans to Detect Early Signs of Alzheimer's"
http://www.dailybreeze.com/ci_11385141

PET Probe Hailed as Life-changing Technology by Forbes
A Jan. 7 article in Forbes highlighting five life-changing new technologies featured a PET-scanning probe developed by UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center researchers that monitors the immune system’s response to new therapies and foreign invaders. The probe was created by Dr. Owen Witte, director of the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at UCLA and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator, and Dr. Caius Radu, assistant professor of molecular and medical pharmacology.

"Five Technologies Set to Change the Decade"
xw_0106claytonchristensen_inl.html

AARP Spotlights Two Inspirational Researchers
The January/February issue of AARP Magazine profiled David Hayes-Bautista, director of the Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, and Dr. Susan Love, adjunct professor of surgery. They were two of 10 individuals whose positive contributions were recognized by AARP’s annual Inspire Awards. “Ten Who Inspire”
http://www.aarpmagazine.org/people/inspire_awards_honorees.html#2009

CURE Magazine Features Survivorship Work
The work of Dr. Patricia Ganz to help survivors deal with the late effects of their cancer treatment was highlighted in the winter issue of CURE Today magazine. She is director of cancer prevention and control research at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and director of the UCLA-LiveSTRONG Survivorship Center of Excellence. “Mapping the Journey”
http://www.curetoday.com/index.cfm/fuseaction/article.show/id/2/article_id/933

Psychologist Explores Emotional Toll of Cancer
Anne Coscarelli, director of the Simms/Mann-UCLA Center for Integrative Oncology at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, commented in the winter issue of CURE Today magazine on the toll taken on cancer patients who are forced to battle the disease on their own. “On Their Own”
http://www.curetoday.com/index.cfm/fuseaction/article.show/id/2/article_id/929

Korean Press Covers Dentistry’s Newest Endowed Chair
The Korea Times and Yonhap News Agency reported Jan. 7 on the creation of the Dr. No-Hee Park Endowed Chair in Dentistry. Funded by a $1 million pledge from the Shapiro Family Charitable Foundation, the chair is named in honor of the school’s current dean and is intended to support the teaching and research of a distinguished faculty member.
http://www.koreatimes.com/article/articleview.asp?id=496833

BRIEFS

The Mindful Awareness Research Center at the Semel Institute was cited in a Jan. 6 Los Angeles Times story as one of the sites testing meditation to determine whether it has measurable health benefits for children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. “Study Shows Transcendental Meditation’s Promise for Kids with ADHD”
http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/booster_shots/2009/01/study-shows-tra.html

A Jan. 5 story in the Los Angeles Business Journal about philanthropists Stewart and Lynda Resnick mentioned their donation to the Stewart and Lynda Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital. “Resnicks Step Out as Leading LACMA Sponsors”
http://www.labusinessjournal.com/industry_article_pay.asp?aID=97099304.1031.1726829.9345165.594991.586&alID2=132824

Dr. Doug Farmer, director of the intestinal transplant program, was cited in a Dec. 29 Atlanta Journal-Constitution story about a Georgia woman who received an intestinal transplant through charity care in Ohio after her home state’s Medicaid program refused to pay for her surgery. “Ohio Pays for Surgery Georgia Denied to Woman”
http://www.ajc.com/services/content/printedition/2008/12/29/transplant.html

QUOTABLES

Fernando Gómez-Pinilla, professor of neurosurgery and physiological science, was quoted in the Dec. 8 German magazine Der Spiegel about the effects of diet on the brain. “Dünger fürs Gehirn”
http://www.spiegel.de/spiegel/0,1518,597556,00.html
Dr. Scott Layne, professor of epidemiology and environmental health sciences at the School of Public Health, commented in the Jan. 4 Los Angeles Times about the reemergence of Asian bird flu in Hong Kong.

“New Bird Flu Cases Revive Fears of Human Pandemic”

Dr. David Reuben, chief of the geriatrics division, was quoted Jan. 4 in a Boston Globe story about how constant stress rapidly ages presidents.

“The Graying of the Presidents”

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor of Aging at the Semel Institute, was quoted Dec. 30 in a U.S. News & World Report article about research suggesting that low blood sugar levels may help protect against memory loss.

“Low Blood Sugar Levels May Help Protect Against Memory Loss”

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