



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Jan. 3-9, 2014

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Trade Publication Honors Orthopaedic Surgery and Women's Health Services

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Hallmark Channel, Network Affiliates Feature Kidney Transplant Chain

The Hallmark Channel's [Home and Family](#) program Jan 8 aired a story about the UCLA living donor kidney chain program. In addition, network affiliates across the country carried a report about the Dec. 2, 2013 reunion of kidney chain donors and participants, including Jan. 7 on [KOB-TV](#) (Albuquerque, N.M.), [KXAN-TV](#) (Austin, Texas), [KFXO-TV](#) (Bend, Ore.), and [KWWL-TV](#) (Cedar Rapids, Iowa); Jan. 8 on [KPRC-TV](#) (Houston) and [WDSU-TV](#) (New Orleans, La.), and many others. Also, Tavis Smiley's "[Tavis](#)

[Talks](#)” radio program Dec. 24 aired a report on the chains. Dr. Jeffrey Veale, assistant professor of urology and director of UCLA's donor exchange program, was featured in the Hallmark, Smiley and reunion stories. Dr. H. Albin Gritsch, surgical director of the kidney and pancreas transplant program, was featured in the reunion reports.

Trade Publication Honors Orthopaedic Surgery and Women's Health Services

[Becker's Hospital Review](#) announced Dec. 30 that the UCLA Department of Orthopaedic Surgery made its list of “100 Hospitals with Great Orthopedic Programs.” According to Becker's Hospital Review, these hospitals were selected based on clinical accolades, quality care and contributions to the field of orthopaedics. [Becker's Hospital Review](#) also announced Dec. 23 that the UCLA Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology made its list of “100 Hospitals with Great Women's Health Programs,” citing its wide array of services and The BirthPlace Center, Westwood at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center.

LA Times Notes Consumer Reports Physician Groups Ratings

The Jan. 8 [Los Angeles Times](#) reported that Californians searching for a doctor have new ratings from Consumer Reports on 170 physician groups statewide. Physician groups affiliated with UCLA Health System were near the top of the rankings. The scores released Jan. 8 are intended to help consumers see how different medical offices measure up on providing care and dealing with patients.

UCLA Stem Cell Scientists First to Track Development of Human Cartilage

[Domain-b](#) Jan. 6 featured research from UCLA's Broad Stem Cell Research Center in which scientists were able to track the development of articular joint cartilage in humans for the first time. Study leader Dr. Denis Evseenko, assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery and head of UCLA's Laboratory of Connective Tissue Regeneration, was quoted in the coverage.

Nanotechnology for Potential Treatment of Pancreatic Cancer

[Bioteknica](#) Jan. 9 highlighted a study from UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center proving the principle of a new method of microscopic drug delivery that could greatly improve the treatment of pancreatic cancer. Quoted in the coverage were the study's leaders Dr. Andre Nel, professor of nanomedicine and member of the California Nanosystems Institute (CNSI), and Dr. Huan Meng, adjunct assistant professor of nanomedicine.

Adult Stem Cells Suppress Cancer While Dormant

[Health Host](#) Jan. 1; [BizCommunity.com](#) and [Medzpro.com](#) Jan. 2; [Stem Cell Assays](#), [Stu's Stem Cell Blog](#) Jan. 4; [WorldHealth.net](#) Jan. 6, and [Wellsphere](#) Jan. 8 featured a study from UCLA's Broad Stem Cell Research Center in which scientists discovered that hair follicle stem cells, which are the source cells of squamous cell skin cancer, can suppress their growth into cancer cells while in their dormant phase. The study's leaders, Dr. Andrew White, post-doctoral fellow, and Dr. William Lowry, associate professor of molecular, cell and developmental biology in the life sciences, were quoted in the coverage.

Report on the State of Cancer Care Highlighted in Alaska

[KTNL-TV](#) (Juneau, Alaska) Jan. 6 reported on an Institute of Medicine report on the state of cancer care today. Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of Cancer Prevention and Control Research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, professor of health policy and management in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and chair of the committee that wrote the report, was quoted.

Examiner.com Cites Genetic Research

[Examiner.com](#) and the [Scrubs Report](#) Jan. 8 featured research by scientists Frank Albert and Leonid Kruglyak that developed a novel approach to study how genetic differences affect gene expression.

Local Media Publish Hospital's Health Resolutions for 2014

The Jan. 3 [Malibu Times](#) and the Jan. 7 [Santa Monica Mirror](#) published articles featuring 14 tips from UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica on how to stay healthy throughout 2014. Dr. Denise Sur, chief of staff at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and director of the UCLA Family Medicine Residency, was referenced in the Mirror article.

KABC and Fox 11 Warn about Current Flu Season

Dr. Mark Morocco, clinical professor of medicine and emergency medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, was featured in Jan 6 [KTTV-Channel 11](#) and Jan. 7 [KABC-Channel 7](#) segments about the current flu season, the importance of getting a flu vaccination, and tips on staying healthy.

KPPC Notes Medicaid Expansion and ER Visits

Dylan Roby, director of the health economics and evaluation research program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, and an assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed Jan. 6 on KPCC-89.3 FM's "[AirTalk](#)" about whether individuals enrolled in Medicaid through the Affordable Care Act are more or less likely to use hospital emergency rooms. Separately, Roby was quoted in a Jan. 2 Los Angeles [Daily News](#) article about the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

NPR Examines the Developing Adolescent Brain

Dr. Daniel Siegel, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and co-founder of the Mindful Awareness Research Center, was interviewed Jan. 6 on NPR's "[Diane Rehm Show](#)" about his book "Brainstorm: The Power and Purpose of the Teenage Brain," which explores teenage behavior and the development of the adolescent brain.

Health Magazine Highlights UCLA Weight Loss Program

A [Health Magazine](#) January online article highlights UCLA's Risk Factor Obesity (RFO) Program as one of 15 top programs in the country to help patients lose weight. RFO is a medically-supervised multi-disciplinary program offering personalized plans for weight loss. The program offers weekly clinics at Westwood and Thousand Oaks that provide medical monitoring, counseling and help with food choices and exercise for patients who are obese or moderately overweight.

No More Seizures for Nikki

Australia's [The Project](#) news program Jan. 7 featured an update on a 4-year-old girl who travelled with her parents to Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA from Perth to undergo diagnostic testing and surgery to successfully treat her epileptic seizures. Her surgeon, Dr. Gary Mathern, professor of neurosurgery and director of the UCLA Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery Program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was featured.

Nurses Join the Unhooked Generation

A study by led Linda Sarna, Lulu Wolf Hassenplug Endowed Chair in Nursing at the UCLA School of Nursing, demonstrating the dramatic decrease of nurses smoking, was covered Jan. 7 by [Medical Xpress](#); Jan. 8 by [Nurse.com](#), [Health Canal](#), [Examiner.com](#), and [EIN World News Report](#), and Jan. 9 by [Nursing Insider News](#).

UC Campuses Going Tobacco-Free

A Jan. 7 article in the [Los Angeles Times](#) about UC campuses banning tobacco use cited UCLA's ban on cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco and other tobacco products, which went into effect in April 2013, and quoted Linda Sarna, Lulu Wolf Hassenplug Endowed Chair in Nursing at the UCLA School of Nursing and chair of UCLA's Tobacco-Free Steering Committee.

BRIEFS

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was mentioned in a Jan. 6 [Washington Post](#) article on a study about new Medicare data that show hospitals with high rates of readmissions.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Vivian Burt, emeritus professor of clinical psychiatry and director of the Women's Life Center at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a Jan. 4 [Today.com](#) article about postpartum depression.

Dr. Andrew Charles, professor and director of the UCLA Headache Research and Treatment Program in the UCLA Department of Neurology, was quoted Jan. 8 in [HealthDay](#) about a study that tested a placebo to treat migraines. Charles noted the researchers say that the placebo effect may still account for half of the therapeutic value of a drug.

Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, medical director of UCLA's Kidney and Pancreas Transplant program, was interviewed Dec. 17 by [Voice of America](#) about illicit organ harvesting in China.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, UCLA's Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted Jan. 6 in a [New Republic](#) article about the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in California.

Dr. David Heber, a professor at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, was quoted Jan. 3 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article on the intermittent fasting diet and in a Jan. 6 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about how a diet rich in fresh produce, chicken, fish and olive oil may help prevent Type 2 diabetes.

Dr. David Hovda, professor of neurosurgery and director of the UCLA Brain Injury Research Center, was interviewed Jan. 7 on KFI 640 AM's The Bill Carroll Show about what constitutes brain death.

Dr. Jim Hu, Henry E. Singleton Chair in urology and director of minimally invasive urology, was quoted in the January issue of [AARP](#) in a story about robotic surgery options.

Dr. Gerald Kominski, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and a professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Jan. 6 in a [New Republic](#) article about the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in California.

Dr. Kevin Miller, Kolokotronis Professor of Ophthalmology and chief of comprehensive ophthalmology at the Jules Stein Eye Institute, was quoted Jan. 6 by [Medscape Medical News](#) on new research showing that quitting smoking cuts the risk of cataracts, but that even two decades after quitting, that risk remains higher than in those who have never smoked.

Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and professor of head and neck surgery at David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was interviewed in the January edition of [L.A. Parent](#) magazine on how parents can research physicians and hospitals for their children.

Dr. Wendy Slusser, medical director of the UCLA Fit for Healthy Weight program, was quoted Jan. 9 in a [Tony and Kris](#) radio show blog on how parents can choose healthy options for their children when eating at fast-food restaurants.

Dr. Gary Small, UCLA's Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, was quoted Dec. 27 in a [Psychiatric News](#) article on how new brain-imaging techniques have provided insights into the biological underpinnings of psychiatric illnesses.

Dr. Susan Smalley, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, was quoted in a Jan. 6 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about research showing mindfulness meditation may help relieve depression, anxiety and pain.

Dr. Paul Vespa, professor of neurology and neurosurgery, and director of neurocritical care, commented in a Jan. 7 [Associated Press](#) story about how the body will slowly shut down after brain death, despite artificial means to maintain blood circulation and ventilation.

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