



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Jan. 6 - 12, 2012

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Opening of New Santa Monica Campus Widely Covered

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L.A. Times Explores Broader Transplant Regulation

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Opening of New Santa Monica Campus Widely Covered

[KTTV-Channel 11](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#) and [KTLA-Channel 5](#) reported January 8 on the opening of the new UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. The Santa Monica Daily Press ran a Jan. 9 photo about the opening and [LA Health Examiner](#) published a Jan. 10 story. Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System, and Dr. James Atkinson, medical director of the Santa Monica campus, were quoted.

Marijuana's Effect on Lungs Attracts National Interest

[Associated Press](#), [Reuters](#), [New York Times](#), [WebMD](#), [Time](#), [MSNBC](#), [CBS News.com](#), [Science News](#) and many others reported Jan. 11 on new research suggesting that occasional marijuana smoking may not harm the lungs. Dr. Donald Tashkin, professor of medicine, division of pulmonary and critical care medicine, was quoted. He was not a study author. The AP story also appeared on Univision, FOX News and others.

Hangover Cure Draws Headlines

The [Huffington Post](#) reported Jan. 12, [New Scientist](#) and [Indo-Asian News Service](#) reported Jan. 9 and [Asian News International](#) reported Jan. 6 on research identifying how a Chinese herbal anti-hangover medicine counters acute alcohol intoxication and withdrawal symptoms, suggesting possible new therapies. Dr. Jing Liang, associate professor of molecular and medical pharmacology, was quoted. KABC-TV Channel 7 and [emaxhealth](#) also covered the findings.

L.A. Times Explores Broader Transplant Regulation

A Jan. 6 blog in the [Los Angeles Times](#) about proposed regulations for hand and face transplants cited the first hand-transplant surgery on the West Coast, which was performed last year at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. The story also appeared in the Chicago Sun-Times, St. Louis Times, El Paso Times, [KDVR-Channel 31](#) (Denver), and [WISH-Channel 8](#) (Indianapolis), among others.

Online Press Links Kids' Iron Intake to Brain Structure

[TheScientist.com](#) reported Jan. 9 and [Examiner.com](#) reported Jan. 12 on a study by Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging. His research found that variations in youngsters' iron levels correlated to the strength of brain-cell connections in the same group in their 20s. George Bartzokis, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and a member of the UCLA Brain Research Institute, was also quoted.

Fox Explores Religion's Effect on Health

KTTV-TV Channel 11 aired an in-studio interview with Dr. Karol Watson, associate professor of medicine, division of cardiology, about the impact of attending religious services on health.

<http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=153726&key=emermRcBJYMCBXcl4Kurtxhp3fz3LSSr&email=RChampeau@mednet.ucla.edu>

KPCC Reveals Clues to Early Alzheimer's

[KPCC-89.3 FM](#) reported Jan. 9 on research by Dr. John Ringman, associate professor of neurology and a member of UCLA's Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research. His study identified chemical changes that occur in the brains of people with familial Alzheimer's disease some 10 years before symptoms appear.

PBS NewsHour Showcases Teen Cancer Center

The [PBS NewsHour](#) website posted a Jan. 12 article on the Daltrey/Townshend Teen & Young Adult Cancer Program at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, the first such program launched in the U.S. by Roger Daltrey and Pete Townshend of the Who. Program director Dr. Jacqueline Casillas, associate professor of pediatrics and a member of UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center, was quoted.

KPCC Spotlights UCLA's Smoke-Free Campus

[KPCC 89.3FM](#) aired a Jan. 12 segment featuring Dr. Timothy Fong, associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, and director of its addiction medicine clinic, about UCLA's new smoking ban, which may one day extend to all UC campuses.

Hand Transplant Recipient Waves in Rose Parade

[Examiner](#) reported Jan. 8 and the Los Angeles [Canyon News](#) reported Jan. 6 about the woman who received the West Coast's first hand-transplant at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. She rode a float highlighting the importance of organ and tissue donation in this year's Rose Parade. Dr. Kodi Azari, chief of reconstructive transplantation, was quoted.

Reagan's Daughter Helps Alzheimer's Patients

The [Beverly Hills Courier](#) reported Jan. 6 on Beyond Alzheimer's, a new support group founded by President Ronald Reagan's daughter, Patti Davis, at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and associate vice chancellor for health sciences, and Linda Ercoli, director of geriatric psychology at the Semel Institute, were cited.

Irish Paper Spotlights Prof's Book for Women

The Jan. 10 [Irish Times](#) highlighted the book, "Live a Little!" Co-authored by Dr. Susan Love, clinical professor of surgery, the book encourages women to live health-conscious lives while allowing themselves to indulge occasionally.

Cancer Trades Cover Thyroid Study

[Oncology Times](#) reported Jan. 6 and [Oncology Nurse Advisor](#) reported Jan. 9 on a study finding that routine removal of neck lymph nodes during initial thyroid surgery for papillary cancer may reduce disease recurrence rates while lowering levels of thyroglobulin, a thyroid tumor marker. Dr. Michael Yeh, associate professor of surgery, was quoted.

BRIEFS

The Jan. 9 [Washington Post](#) cited the work of Dr. Antronette Yancey, professor of health services in the School of Public Health, who developed the concept of "Instant Recess," a physical exercise program designed for the office or school.

Dr. James Cherry, professor of pediatric infectious diseases at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted Jan. 6 in a [Chicago Tribune](#) article about the resurgence of whooping cough. The paper also published a [column](#) by the reporter that discussed her investigation into the disease's history and cited Cherry's research.

Dr. Karen Miotto, director of the alcoholism and addiction medicine service in the Semel Institute, was named one of the top addiction psychiatrists in [U.S. News & World Report's](#) annual health survey.

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and the UCLA Blood & Platelet Center were mentioned Jan. 9 in a [Santa Monica Patch](#) article about a blood drive for a young boy undergoing chemotherapy at the hospital.

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was cited Jan. 7 in the [Los Alamos Monitor](#) (NM) in a story about a young girl who underwent a hemispherectomy at UCLA to control her refractory epilepsy, a form of the disease that does not respond to medication.

Dr. Gary Mathern, professor of pediatric neurosurgery and director of the UCLA Pediatric Epilepsy Program, was cited Jan. 6 in a [Norwalk Plus](#) (CT) article about the RE Children's Project, a consortium that will study Rasmussen encephalitis. Mathern and Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA are part of the consortium.

QUOTABLES

Fiona Angus, assistant director of maternity services at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, and Lynn Sullivan, community programs manager, commented in a Jan. 9 [KTTV-Channel 11](#) story about special arrangements for celebrity births.

Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, director of the kidney and pancreas transplant program, was quoted Jan. 7 in an [International Medical Travel Journal](#) article about transplant tourism.

Dr. Ravi Dave, staff cardiologist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and associate professor of medicine, was quoted in a Jan. 11 [WebMD](#) story about the risk of cardiac arrest during marathons.

Dr. Bruce Dobkin, professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Neurologic Rehabilitation and Research Program, was quoted Jan.12 by [Reuters](#) about a robotic machine that simulates walking for stroke patients who have lost the use of their legs. The article appeared in a dozen other newspapers, including the Chicago Tribune and Baltimore Sun.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented Jan. 9 in [HealthDay News](#) about research showing that stress and anxiety following the death of a loved one can raise the risk of a heart attack.

David Hayes-Bautista, director of the UCLA Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, was quoted Jan. 7 in [CNN.com](#) about the online release of more than 13 million documents from the 1930 Mexican census.

Dr. David Heber, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, commented Jan. 6 in the [Boston Globe](#) on the limits of the bathroom scale in evaluating weight gain.

Joshua Grill, director of the Katherine and Benjamin Kagan Alzheimer's Disease Treatment Development Program, was quoted Jan. 9 by [WebMD](#) about the use of nicotine patches to offset mild memory loss.

Dr. Peter Katona, associate clinical professor of medicine, division of infectious diseases, was quoted Jan. 5 in the [Seattle Times](#) about how a new flu virus linked to pigs could affect U.S. pork exports.

Gerald Kominski, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health, was quoted Jan.8 by the [Orlando Sentinel](#) about the opening of a new medical complex in Florida.

Dr. Emanuel Maidenberg, associate clinical professor of psychiatry and clinical coordinator for the UCLA Anxiety Disorders Program, was quoted Jan. 12 by the [Los Angeles Times](#) about Californians' chronic stress.

Dr. Michael Ong, assistant professor of general internal medicine and health services research and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted Jan. 5 in Salt Lake City's [Deseret Morning News](#) about no-smoking policies at mental health and drug-abuse treatment facilities in Utah.

Dr. Judith Orloff, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted Jan. 9 in the [Ventura County Star](#) about a workshop for making collages known as "vision boards."

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor of family medicine, commented Jan. 12 in the [San Fernando Valley Sun](#) about the shortage of Spanish-speaking mental-health professionals.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted Jan. 6 in [My Health News Daily](#) about how brain function can decline as early as age 45.

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