



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT**  
**For the week of Jan. 7 - 13, 2011**

Note: Website links may expire without notice. Some sites require password registration. If you cannot access a story or would like to obtain a copy, please call 310.794.0777.

---

**Media Tap UCLA Experts to Comment on Tucson Shootings**

**Today Show Explores Actress' Superior Memory**

**Chicago Tribune Focuses on Care for the Terminally Ill**

**Newswire Links Antioxidant Therapy to Clogged Arteries**

**L.A. Magazine Spotlights Top SoCal Physicians**

**JAMA Highlights Hospital Certification Program in Heart Care**

**Drug that Cuts Smoking Cravings Draws Headlines**

**"AirTalk" Scrutinizes Blue Shield's Major Rate Hike**

**Geriatrician Offers Tips for a Healthier New Year**

**Local Paper Announces Landmark Study's Launch**

**KFWB Interviews Breast Cancer Expert**

**BRIEFS**

**QUOTABLES**

---

**Media Tap UCLA Experts to Comment on Tucson Shootings**

Numerous UCLA doctors and scientists were interviewed by national and local media about the shooting of Rep. Gabrielle Giffords and her continuing recovery.

**David Hovda**, professor of neurosurgery and director of the UCLA Brain Injury Research Center, commented Jan. 10 on KCBS Channel-2 about the congresswoman's continuing recovery.

"UCLA Doctor Consulted"

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/video-news-on-demand/?autoStart=true&topVideoCatNo=default&clipId=5457107&flvUri=&partnerclipid>

**Marco Iacoboni**, professor of psychiatry, was quoted in a Jan. 12 Scientific American article about whether alleged killer Jared Lee Loughner, was struggling with mental health issues.

"What Causes Someone to Act on Violent Impulses and Commit Murder?"

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=anger-management-self-control>

**Dr. Neil Martin**, chair of neurosurgery, was featured Jan. 9 by ABCNews.com, and Jan. 10 by National Public Radio's "Morning Edition," Extra's "Lifechangers," KABC-Channel-7, KTLA Channel-5, KPPC-89.3 FM's "AirTalk," and on KFI-640 AM's Bill Carroll Show. He also was quoted Jan. 9 in the Los Angeles Times.

"Gabrielle Giffords in Medically Induced Coma to Help Brain Rest"

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/gabrielle-giffords-health-update/story?id=12576433>

"Cautious Optimism Over Giffords' Brain Injury"

[http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health/your\\_health&id=7890522](http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health/your_health&id=7890522)

"Doctors Monitor Rep. Giffords' Brain for Swelling"

<http://www.npr.org/2011/01/11/132826333/Giffords-Fights-To-Recover-Doctors-Monitor-For-Swelling>

"Aftermath of Arizona Shooting"

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/airtalk/2011/01/10/tuscon-shooting/>

"Doctors remain Hopeful for Gabrielle Giffords"

<http://articles.latimes.com/2011/jan/09/nation/la-na-gabrielle-giffords-surgery-20110110>

**Dr. Marc Nuwer**, professor of neurology, was quoted Jan. 11 by Medscape Today and Jan. 13 by Associated Press, about Rep. Giffords' continuing recovery.

"Giffords Breathing on Her Own, Condition Called 'Encouraging'"

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/735637>

"Many Factors Key to Giffords' Survival, Docs Say"

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20110113/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/us\\_congresswoman\\_shot\\_recovery\\_1](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20110113/ap_on_re_us/us_congresswoman_shot_recovery_1)

**Dr. C. Scott Saunders**, director of the trauma psychiatry service at the Semel Institute, was quoted Jan. 9 in USA Today on whether alleged killer Jared Lee Loughner, was struggling with mental health issues.

"What Would Cause a Young Person to Snap?"

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2011-01-10-mentalhealth10\\_ST\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2011-01-10-mentalhealth10_ST_N.htm)

**Dr. Paul Vespa**, professor of neurology and neurosurgery and medical director of UCLA's neurointensive care unit, was quoted Jan. 9 on ABC News.com, and Jan. 10 in the Independent (U.K.) about how Rep. Giffords was able to survive being shot in the head.

"Gabrielle Giffords Defies Medical Odds after Gunshot to Brain"

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/News/gabrielle-giffords-doctors-surviving-gunshot-head/story?id=12573502>

"Trajectory of Bullet Can Be the Key to Survival"

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/health-news/trajectory-of-bullet-can-be-the-key-to-survival-2180270.html>

**Dr. Alexander Young**, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted Jan. 10 by Reuters in an article about alleged killer Jared Lee Loughner.

"Could Arizona Shooting Have Been Prevented?"

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE70962O20110110?feedType=RSS&feedName=domesticNews>

### **Today Show Explores Actress' Superior Memory**

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Center on Aging, was featured Jan. 9 in NBC's "Today Show" about actress Marilu Henner's unusual ability to clearly recall nearly every moment of her life. He also was interviewed Jan. 4 for a CNBC documentary about technology's overwhelming impact on our lives.

"Marilu Henner Remembers Every Single Minute of Her Life"

[http://bodyodd.msnbc.msn.com/\\_news/2011/01/06/5778163-marilu-henner-remembers-every-single-minute-of-her-life](http://bodyodd.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2011/01/06/5778163-marilu-henner-remembers-every-single-minute-of-her-life)

"CNBC - Crackberry'd: The Truth about Information Overload"

<http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=139281&key=21sSw4ukcE6hn9ZBc6yB3IMc6ZiBe47T&email=RChampeau@mednet.ucla.edu>

### **Chicago Tribune Focuses on Care for the Terminally Ill**

The Chicago Tribune featured a Dec. 22 article that originally ran in the Los Angeles Times about the emerging field of palliative care for the terminally ill. The story highlighted the work of Dr. David Wallenstein, assistant clinical professor of family medicine, who works with UCLA's palliative care service. Wallenstein, Dr. Thomas Strouse, Maddie Katz Professor of Palliative Care Research and Education and medical director of the Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital at UCLA; and Dr. Alice Chen, clinical instructor of general internal medicine and health services research, were quoted. Palliative care nurse Edith O'Neil-Page appeared in several photos.

"Easing Life's Final Choices"

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-1219-end-of-life-doctor-20101219,0,5461231.story>

### **Newswire Links Antioxidant Therapy to Clogged Arteries**

Asian News International reported Jan. 11 on research by Dr. Jesus Araujo, director of environmental cardiology, that links a protein with an important role in some antioxidant therapies to atherosclerosis. Araujo was quoted. Sify News and Daily India picked up the story. Additional coverage included Barchester Health News and the Science Blog.

“Antioxidant Protein Promotes Clogging of Arteries, Says Study”

<http://www.dailyindia.com/show/418558.php>

“Antioxidant Protein Promotes Clogging of Arteries, Says Study”

<http://www.sify.com/news/antioxidant-protein-promotes-clogging-of-arteries-says-study-news-international-lblr4Baaifh.html>

“Protein Thought to Protect Against Oxidative Stress Promotes Clogging of Arteries”

<http://scienceblog.com/41633/protein-thought-to-protect-against-oxidative-stress-also-promotes-clogging-of-arteries/>

### **L.A. Magazine Spotlights Top SoCal Physicians**

The January edition of Los Angeles Magazine’s listing of top Southern California doctors featured 266 UCLA physicians. Candidates were nominated by more than 31,000 doctors and evaluated on the criteria of peer recognition, professional status and disciplinary history.

“Southern California Super Doctors 2011”

### **JAMA Highlights Hospital Certification Program in Heart Care**

JAMA reported Jan. 12 about the American Heart Association’s consideration of a hospital certification program to recognize leading centers in heart disease and stroke care. Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, coauthored an advisory report on the topic. He was quoted.

“Heart Association Considers Certifying Hospitals Based on Quality and Results”

<http://jama.ama-assn.org/content/305/2/137.full>

### **Drug that Cuts Smoking Cravings Draws Headlines**

Dr. Arthur Brody, professor of psychiatry and director of the smoking cessation programs at the Greater Los Angeles VA Medical Center, was interviewed Jan.12 by Medscape Today and in Jan. 4 news reports on nine NBC-TV affiliates. He discussed his research showing that the drug bupropion changes how smokers’ brains react to smoking cues.

“Bupropion, Varenicline May Decrease Brain Reactivity to Smoking Cues”

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/735656>

### **“AirTalk” Scrutinizes Blue Shield's Major Rate Hike**

Shana Alex Lavarreda, director of health insurance studies for the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health, appeared Jan. 6 on KPCC-89.3FM’s “AirTalk” to address Blue Shield’s announcement of a large rate hike for individual health insurance policy-holders.

“Blue Shield of California Hikes Rates Up to 59%”

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/airtalk/2011/01/06/insurance-fee-hikes/>

### **Geriatrician Offers Tips for a Healthier New Year**

Dr. Sonja Rosen, staff geriatrician at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, wrote a Jan. 7 Santa Monica Mirror column offering tips for better health at any age.

“Ten Tips for a Healthier 2011”

<http://www.smmirror.com/#mode=single&view=31594>

### **Local Paper Announces Study’s Launch**

The Antelope Valley News reported Jan. 13 that enrollment starts this month for the National Children’s Study, the largest long-term U.S. study of environmental influences on children’s health and development. Lead investigator Dr. Neal Halfon, professor of pediatrics, public health and public policy and director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities, was quoted.

“Research Project Set to Launch in Lancaster”

<http://www.ourweekly.com/antelope-valley/research-project-set-launch-lancaster>

## **KFWB Interviews Breast Cancer Expert**

Dr. Richard Finn, assistant professor of hematology/oncology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was interviewed Jan. 10 on KFWB 980AM about a new experimental drug for women with hard-to-treat triple-negative breast cancer.

## **BRIEFS**

Westside Today ran a Jan. 13 brief about an upcoming UCLArts and Healing workshop addressing our relationship with food.

"New Year; New Relationship with Food -- It's Possible"

<http://www.westsidetoday.com/n4214/new-year-new-relationship.html>

## **QUOTABLES**

Rita Cantor, professor of human genetics at the David Geffen School of Medicine and professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, commented Jan. 10 in an MSNBC.com story on new research that suggests that autism risk triples when a child is conceived within 12 months of his or her next older sibling. The report also appeared on ThirdAge.com and the (Taiwanese) Liberty Times.

"Autism Risk Rises in Closely Spaced Pregnancies, Study Finds"

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/40990120/ns/health-kids\\_and\\_parenting/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/40990120/ns/health-kids_and_parenting/)

"Autism Risk: Risk of Autism Rises in Closely Spaced Pregnancies"

[http://www.thirdage.com/news/autism-risk-risk-autism-rises-closely-spaced-pregnancies\\_1-10-2011##ixzz1AejbSPKv](http://www.thirdage.com/news/autism-risk-risk-autism-rises-closely-spaced-pregnancies_1-10-2011##ixzz1AejbSPKv)

The Liberty Times (Taiwan)

<http://iservice.libertytimes.com.tw/liveNews/news.php?no=452119&type=%E5%9C%8B%E9%9A%9B>

Dr. Tumaini Coker, assistant professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented Jan. 12 in HealthDay on a study finding that antibiotics can ease children's ear infections.

"Antibiotics Can Ease Kids' Ear Infections, Studies Show"

<http://health.msn.com/medications/articlepage.aspx?cp-documentid=100268956>

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted Jan. 11 in Internal Medicine News on a biomarker to guide heart-failure therapy and in HealthDay News about research suggesting painkillers boost heart attack and stroke risks. He also commented in Jan. 11 stories in HealthDay News and Heart.org about survival rates of patients taking two similar heart-failure drugs. He commented Jan. 10 in HealthDay News about research finding that kids whose parents smoke are more likely to develop pediatric high blood pressure.

"PROTECT Trial Opens Door to Biomarker-Guided Heart Failure Therapy"

<http://www.internalmedicineneeds.com/news/cardiovascular-disease/single-article/protect-trial-opens-door-to-biomarker-guided-heart-failure-therapy/fdc99359e9.html>

"Secondhand Smoke Tied to High Blood Pressure in Kids"

<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=648665>

"Not All Heart Failure Drugs Boost Survival Equally"

<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=648744>

"Candesartan Associated with Fewer Deaths than Losartan in HF Registry"

<http://www.theheart.org/article/1170501.do>

"Certain Painkillers Appear to Boost Odds for Heart Attack"

<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=648747>

Michelle Fox, a UCLA genetics counselor and adjunct assistant professor of pediatrics, commented Jan. 12 in the Los Angeles Times about consumers' reactions to results from over-the-counter genetic tests.

"Genetic Tests: No Anxiety, No Gain?"

<http://www.latimes.com/health/boostershots/la-heb-dtc-gene-tests-20110112,0,7406805.story>

Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of cancer prevention and control research at the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted Jan. 8 in HealthDay News about research on breast cancer treatments and quality of life.

“Quality of Life Key Measure in Breast Cancer Clinical Trials”

<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=648603>

Dr. Peter Galier, internal medicine specialist at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital and associate professor of medicine, was quoted Jan. 11 by WebMD about the shingles vaccine.

“Shingles Vaccine Cuts Disease Risk 55%”

<http://www.webmd.com/skin-problems-and-treatments/shingles/news/20110110/shingles-vaccine-cuts-disease-risk-55-percent>

Dr. David Heber, professor of medicine and public health and director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, commented Jan. 10 in the Los Angeles Times about a new federal requirement for nutrition labels on raw meat.

“Meat Nutritional Guidance in Black and White”

<http://articles.latimes.com/2011/jan/09/health/la-he-meat-labels-20110109>

Dr. Peter Katona, associate clinical professor of infectious diseases, commented Jan. 10 on ABC News.com about the H1N1 virus.

“WHO Says H1N1 Flu Still a Pandemic”

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/SwineFlu/h1n1-pandemic-world-health-organization/story?id=10814850&page=3>

Dr. Aurelia Nattiv, professor of family medicine, commented in the January issue of Fitness Magazine in a Q&A about calcium supplements and heart disease.

“Live Healthy: Health Q&A”

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Center on Aging, commented Jan. 10 in the New York Times about an autobiography class for seniors and the importance of continuing education as we age.

“The Tales They Tell”

<http://newoldage.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/01/10/the-tales-they-tell/?partner=rss&emc=rss>

Dr. Jeffrey Saver, professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Stroke Center, commented Jan. 11 in the Los Angeles Times about a study that found antidepressants can help stroke survivors regain mobility.

“After Stroke, Antidepressants Aid in Regaining Mobility”

<http://www.latimes.com/health/boostershots/la-heb-stroke-antidepressants-a-01112011,0,5736167.story>

=====

UCLA's Health Sciences Media Relations office e-publishes this report weekly. For more information, please call Roxanne Moster, director of Health Sciences Media Relations, or Elaine Schmidt, senior media relations officer, at 310-794-0777. Our office also offers publicity for new research, medical breakthroughs, clinical trial recruitment, inspirational patient stories and more. To identify the appropriate public information officer for your department, visit [www.uclahealth.org/mediacontacts](http://www.uclahealth.org/mediacontacts).