



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Jan. 8 - 14, 2010

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Hospital CEO Makes List of Best Physician Leaders

The January issue of Becker's Hospital Review named Dr. David Feinberg, CEO of the UCLA Hospital System and associate vice chancellor, as one of the top healthcare leaders in its annual list of 30 of the 'Best Physician Leaders of Hospitals and Health Systems.'

"30 of the Best Physician Leaders of Hospitals and Health Systems"

<http://hospitalreviewmagazine.com/news-and-analysis/business-and-financial/30-of-the-best-physician-leaders-of-hospitals-and-health-systems.html>

Potential Blood Test for Lung Cancer Draws Wide Coverage

United Press International, CNN Radio, MedPage Today, WebMD, eFitnessnow.com and dozens of TV stations nationwide reported Jan. 13 on new research about a blood test to help diagnose lung cancer. Dr. Steven Dubinett, professor of pulmonary and critical care medicine and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center, presented the findings.

"New Test for Lung Cancer Described"

http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2010/01/13/New-test-for-lung-cancer-described/UPI-29991263430478/

"Blood Test for Lung Cancer in the Works"

<http://www.efitnessnow.com/news/2010/01/14/blood-test-to-diagnose-lung-cancer/>

"Blood Test to Diagnose Lung Cancer"

<http://www.efitnessnow.com/news/2010/01/14/blood-test-to-diagnose-lung-cancer/>

Trade Spotlights Hospital Administrator

The January edition of Hospitals & Health Networks profiled Shannon O'Kelley, associate director of clinical services, for his work on Operation Mend, a free reconstructive-surgery program for wounded warriors injured in Iraq and Afghanistan, launched at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in 2007. O'Kelly was quoted. Hospital board member Ronald Katz, who initiated the program, and Dr. Tim Miller, chief of plastic surgery, were both mentioned.

"Extra Mile – Operation Mend: Healing the Body and the Spirit"

http://www.hhnmag.com/hhnmag_app/jsp/articledisplay.jsp?dcrpath=HHNMAG/Article/data/01JAN2010/1001HHN_Inbox_ExtraMile&domain=HHNMAG

TIME, S.F. Chronicle Examine Drug-Resistant HIV Risk

The San Francisco Chronicle and TIME Magazine reported Jan. 14 on research by Sally Blower, director of the Center for Biomedical Modeling and a member of the UCLA AIDS Institute, suggesting that the city could face an increase in drug-resistant HIV strains. Published in the journal Science, the findings were also covered by HealthDay News, Bay Area Reporter, Bloomberg News and MedPage Today, among others. Blower was quoted.

"Study Warns of Drug-Resistant HIV Strains"

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2010/01/14/MN5H1BHUSM.DTL>

"New Study Raises Concerns about HIV Drug Resistance"

<http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,1953718,00.html#ixzz0ccu2NtdR>

"Evolving Strains of HIV May Cause Wave of Drug Resistance"

<http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=634938>

"Breaking News: Study Predicts 'Wave' of HIV Resistance; SF Official Says No Cause for Alarm"

<http://www.ebar.com/news/article.php?sec=news&article=4487>

KNBC Compares Haiti Earthquake to Potential L.A. Trembler

Dr. Kimberley Shoaf, associate director of the Center for Public Health and Disasters in the School of Public Health, appeared Jan. 13 in a KNBC-Channel 4 report on the earthquake in Haiti, problems following a major earthquake and implications for Los Angeles. She also commented in a Jan. 14 Associated Press story on the same topic.

"Haiti's Misfortune Offers Quake Lessons for Southland"

http://www.nbclosangeles.com/station/as-seen-on/Haiti_s_Misfortune_Offers_Quake_Lessons_for_Southland_Los_Angeles.html

"Day of Death and Despair"

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/81407912.html>

Slate Spotlights Differences in Hospital Costs, Patient Outcomes

A Jan. 9 blog in Slate magazine highlighted a study by researchers at six California medical centers, including Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, scrutinizing differences in medical treatment, cost and patient outcomes between hospitals. The study suggests that resource-intensive care may improve outcomes among certain patients with heart failure, the most frequent cause of hospitalization and death among Medicare beneficiaries.

"We Remember Jim Johnson"

<http://www.slate.com/blogs/blogs/kausfiles/archive/2010/01/09/we-remember-jim-johnson.aspx>

UPI Spotlights Volunteering and Frailty in Seniors

United Press International reported Jan. 13 on research by UCLA geriatrics professors Tara Gruenewald, Teresa Seeman and Dr. Catherine Sarkisian and UCLA student Yunkyung Jung finding lower rates of frailty among seniors who volunteered their time.

"Volunteering May Prevent Frailty"

http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2010/01/13/Volunteering-may-prevent-frailty/UPI-61241263360655/

HealthDay Reports on Mail-Order Pharmacies

HealthDay News reported Jan. 14 on research by Dr. Kenrik Duru, assistant professor of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that patients who mail-order their prescriptions are likelier to adhere to their regimen than patients who buy them at "brick-and-mortar" outlets. The study was published in American Journal of Managed Care.

"Mail-Order May Help People Stick to Med Regimens"

<http://www.businessweek.com/lifestyle/content/healthday/634940.html>

UPI Reports on Drug for Diabetics with Heart Failure

United Press International reported Jan. 13 on research by Dr. Tamara Horwich, assistant professor of cardiology, and Dr. Gregg Fonarow, director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, on how a drug often used to treat Type 2 diabetes, is safe for use in patients who also have advanced heart failure. The website "A Sweet Life" also ran a Jan. 10 story.

"Metformin Safe for Heart Failure Patients"

http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2010/01/13/Metformin-safe-for-heart-failure-patients/UPI-35461263360801/

"Metformin is Safe for Patients with Advanced Heart Failure and Diabetes"

<http://asweetlife.org/a-sweet-life-staff/in-the-news/type-2-in-the-news/metformin-is-safe-for-patients-with-advanced-heart-failure-and-diabetes/4005/>

ANI, Toronto Paper Explore Air Travel's Link to H1N1 Exposure

The Toronto Globe and Asian News International respectively reported Jan. 7 and Jan. 8 on research by Sally Blower, director of the Center for Biomedical Modeling at the Semel Institute. Her lab used mathematical modeling to show that more H1N1 infections could occur during air travel if an infected person flies economy versus first class. A dozen TV newscasts also aired the findings Jan. 8 and Jan. 9.

"H1N1 Infection a Bigger Risk to Fliers in Economy Class"

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/health/h1n1-swine-flu/h1n1-infection-a-bigger-risk-to-fliers-in-economy-class/article1423104/>

"H1N1 Virus more easily Spread during Plane Travel"

<http://sify.com/news/h1n1-virus-more-easily-spread-during-plane-travel-news-international-kbimuffdjhc.html>

HealthDay Features Hepatitis C Study

HealthDay News reported Jan. 8 on research by Dr. Samuel French, assistant professor of pathology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center, showing that the plant-derived Quercetin can be used to block hepatitis C infection. The report also appeared in Business Week. Drug Week and Biotech Business Week featured the research in their Jan. 22 editions.

"Key to Hepatitis C May Be Two Cellular Proteins"

<http://health.msn.com/medications/articlepage.aspx?cp-documentid=100252288>

Music Program Strikes a Chord in Therapy Trade

Therapy Times magazine ran a Jan. 3 story on the music therapy program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, including its use of a new Music Rx cart. Amy Bullock, director of Child Life and Child Development Services, and Vanya Green, the hospital's music therapist, were interviewed.

"Putting the Cart before the Hospital"

http://www.therapytimes.com/Putting_the_Cart_before_the_Hospital_Music_Rx_increases_therapy_program_s_visibi/content=9801J84C4876848440A040441

Geriatrician Rings in New Year with Health Tips

The Santa Monica Mirror ran a Jan. 7 column by Dr. Sonja Rosen, staff geriatrician at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital and assistant clinical professor of medicine, highlighting suggestions for a healthier new year.

"Ten Health Tips for 2010"

<http://www.smmirror.com/MainPages/DisplayArchiveArticle.asp?eid=11693>

Optometry Today Reports on AMD Study

A UCLA study by Dr. Anne Coleman, Stark professor of ophthalmology at the Jules Stein Eye Institute, finding that even after age 80, smoking increases the risk of vision loss from age-related macular degeneration, was reported Jan. 11 by Optometry Today. The American Journal of Ophthalmology published the findings in its January edition. Coleman was quoted.

"Quit Smoking to Save Your Vision, Study Urges"

<http://www.optometry.co.uk/newsview.php?id=864>

KPCC, Ventura Paper Investigate Economics of Health Care Reform

Gerald Kominski, professor of public health and associate director of the Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health, was interviewed Jan. 11 on KPCC-89.3 FM's "AirTalk" about a new study suggesting that health care reforms proposed in Congress could have unintended economic consequences. He also commented Jan. 12 in the Ventura County Star about how new Medicare cuts could affect the treatment and care of senior citizens with heart problems.

"Health Reform: Do Costs Outweigh Benefits?"

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/airtalk/2010/01/11/health-reform-do-costs-outweigh-benefits/>

"Cardiologists Say Medicare Cuts Will Hurt Patients"

<http://www.vcstar.com/news/2010/jan/12/some-local-cardiologists-fighting-medicare-cuts/>

Newspapers Explore On-off Switch for Huntington's in Mice

The Chicago Tribune and Seattle Times reported Jan. 10 and Jan. 11 respectively about a study by Dr. William Yang finding a new way to prevent Huntington's disease in mice. The story originally appeared in the online edition of the Los Angeles Times.

"A New Lead on Huntington's Disease"

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/health/ct-sun-health-huntington-wire-20100108,0,7958698.story>

News Column Warns of Parasite Risk in Seafood

The San Gabriel Valley Tribune ran a Jan. 13 column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, about potential parasites in sushi and other fish.

"Larvae Pose Threat in Fish"

http://www.sgvtribune.com/living/ci_14182749

A.P. Covers Plea by Former Researcher

Associated Press reported Jan. 8 that a former UCLA researcher pleaded guilty in federal court to improperly accessing the confidential medical records of high-profile patients while working at UCLA Medical Center in 2003. The researcher is scheduled to be sentenced March 22.

"Ex-UCLA Researcher Pleads Guilty to Record Breach"

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_MEDICAL_RECORDS_BREACH?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2010-01-08-21-05-39

BRIEFS

The online editions of MSN Money and Fox Business reported Jan. 8 that Dr. Rhonda Voskuhl, professor of neurology, received an additional \$860,440 in grant funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for her clinical trial of a potential drug candidate for treating multiple sclerosis.

“Market Report – In Play”

<http://news.moneycentral.msn.com/provider/providerarticle.aspx?feed=BCOM&date=20100108&id=10969848>

Projects by researchers at the Broad Stem Cell Research Center at UCLA were cited Jan. 10 in a Los Angeles Times story about grants distributed by the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

“Grant Money Could Speed Stem Cell Cures”

http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-sci-stem-cells10-2010jan10_0,2536499.story

“Stem Cell Projects Underway”

<http://articles.latimes.com/2010/jan/09/science/la-sci-stem-cells-box10-2010jan10>

Nearly 200 UCLA physicians were chosen by their peers for a special section in the January Los Angeles Magazine on Southern California’s top doctors.

“Southern California Super Doctors 2010”

<http://www.superdoctors.com/>

A story about New Year’s health resolutions that ran Jan. 8 in the Edinburgh News cited a UCLA study finding that surfing the Internet may help stimulate brain function in middle-aged and older adults.

“Follow Our 10 Key Steps and You’ll soon be Smiling”

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/features/Follow-our-ten-key-steps.5966455.jp>

The division of cardiothoracic surgery at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was cited in the December/January issue of Worth Magazine’s list of top 25 hospitals for heart bypass surgery. The list was compiled for the magazine by healthcare research firm Castle Connolly.

“ELITE LIST: Top 25 Hospitals for Bypass Surgery”

http://www.worth.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=828:elite-list-top-25-hospitals-for-bypass-surgery&catid=4:live

QUOTABLES

Dr. Larry Baraff, associate director of emergency medicine, commented Jan. 11 in the Los Angeles Times on a study finding that emergency spine immobilization in the field may increase death rates for some trauma patients with gunshot or knife wounds.

“Emergency Spine Immobilization May Do More Harm than Good”

http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/booster_shots/2010/01/spine-immobilization-emt-emergency-paramedic-hurts.html

Dr. Brenda Bursch, professor of clinical psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, was quoted in the January edition of Texas Monthly on Munchausen syndrome by proxy.

“Mother, Health Thyself”

<http://www.texasmonthly.com/preview/2010-01-01/feature5>

Alina Dorian, adjunct assistant professor of public health at the Center for Public Health and Disasters in the School of Public Health, commented Jan.13 in TIME about long-term health risks from the earthquake that struck Haiti.

“After the Quake Comes the Disease. Can Haiti Cope?”

http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1953379_1953494_1953675,00.html

Dr. Andrew Drexler, director of the Gonda Diabetes Center, was quoted Jan. 11 in a USA Today article about how Type 1 diabetes can impact patients.

“Type 1 Diabetes Affects Every Aspect of Daily Life”

http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2010-01-11-diabetes11_VA_N.htm

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented Jan. 13 in HealthDay News about a study suggesting that television watching increases individuals' risk of death from cardiovascular disease.

“TV Watching May Shorten Your Life”

<http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=634816>

Dr. Wayne Grody, professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, pediatrics and human genetics, commented in the January edition of Clinical Laboratory News about genetic testing milestones that have happened in the past decade and what might be on the horizon.

“Lab Medicine Outlook: What Will the Coming Decade Bring”

<http://www.aacc.org/publications/clin/2010/January/Pages/CoverStory1Jan10.aspx>

Dr. Peter Lawrence, chief of vascular surgery, commented Jan. 9 in the Los Angeles Times about the health impact of new regulations by the Transportation Airport Security, including passengers not being able to leave their seats an hour before landing.

“Steps for Air Safety Bring Health Worries”

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-travel-briefcase9-2010jan09,0,7060806.story>

Dr. Larissa Mooney, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, commented Jan.7 on ABCNews.com about a new anti-drug program to prevent teens from taking methamphetamine. The program uses a camera and software to show teens how the drug might alter their appearance for the worse within a few years.

“Face2Face Computer Program Shows Kids Consequences of Meth Use”

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/Drugs/face2face-computer-program-shows-kids-faces-crystal-meth/story?id=9491314>

Steven Nusinowitz, associate professor at UCLA's Jules Stein Eye Institute, explained in a Jan. 8 Los Angeles Times article why 20 percent of the population get headaches or eye strain from watching 3-D films.

" 'Avatar': A Pandora's Box of Brain Confusion, Headaches?"

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/movies/2010/01/a-3d-explainer-why-it-hurts-some-peoples-eyes.html>

Dr. John Ringman, assistant director of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research, and Sally Frautschy, associate professor of neurology, commented Jan. 8 in the Los Angeles Times health blog about research suggesting that a cocktail of nutrients may help delay or reverse some of the memory loss related to Alzheimer's disease. Ringman was also quoted in a Jan. 12 Science News article on the same topic.

“Gene Variant Might Guard Against Alzheimer's, Other Dementia”

http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/53953/title/Gene_variant_might_guard_against_Alzheimers_other_dementia

“Alzheimer's Cocktail? Don't Get Too Intoxicated, Experts Say”

http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/booster_shots/2010/01/alzheimers-cocktail-dont-get-too-intoxicated-experts-say.html

Dr. A. Nick Shamie, associate professor of orthopaedic surgery, was a Jan. 14 guest on KPCC 89.3FM's “AirTalk” in a segment about chronic back pain.

“Back Pain: Types and Treatments”

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/airtalk/2010/01/14/back-pain-types-and-treatments/>

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