



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Jan. 13 - 19, 2012

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Skin Cancer Study Garners Headlines

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L.A. Times Spotlights Drug-Resistant T.B.

Parade, KTTV Explore Protecting Our Aging Brains

Young Chef's Efforts to Promote Bone-Marrow Donation

Associated Press Covers Priest's Gambling Addiction

Australian Paper Explores Romance in Rats, Humans

Local Papers Cover Tattoo-Related Infection

Online Press Links Kids' Iron Intake to Brain Structure

HuffPo Praises Operation Mend

New Mexico Paper Spotlights Woman's Rare Transplant

Career Advisor's Award Attracts Applause

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Chicago Tribune Highlights Nutrition Expert

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Skin Cancer Study Garners Headlines

[Reuters](#), [KPCC 98.3 FM](#), [HealthDay News](#), [EFE News Service](#), [Health.com](#), [MedPage Today](#), [Cancer Research UK](#), [Medical News Today](#), [EMaxHealth.com](#), [Daily RX](#), [Science Daily](#), [Doctors Lounge](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Science Codex](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Med India](#), [Drugs.com](#) and others reported Jan. 18 on a New England Journal of Medicine study showing that the use of a BRAF inhibitor in patients with advanced melanoma accelerated growth of a secondary skin cancer. The HealthDay story also appeared on U.S. News & World Report, MSN Health and HealthCast.com. Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of

hematology/oncology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, led the research.

CBS Examines New Treatments for Alzheimer's

Dr. Joshua Chodosh, associate professor-in-residence of geriatrics, appeared Jan. 17 on [CBS Evening News](#) to discuss the federal government's effort to find an effective treatment for Alzheimer's by 2025.

Folk Cure that May Counteract Alcohol Draws Coverage

[ABC \(Australia\) News](#) reported Jan. 12, [NBC News Live](#) and the [Toronto Star](#) reported Jan. 13, [The Province](#) and [French Tribune.com](#) reported Jan. 14, [The Ottawa Citizen](#) reported Jan. 15, and the [Vancouver Sun](#) and [Asian Scientist News](#) reported Jan. 16 on a study led by principal investigator Dr. Jing Liang, associate professor of molecular and medical pharmacology, and a team of UCLA researchers. The findings showed that a component of an ancient Chinese herbal medicine may counteract alcohol intoxication and dependence. Liang was quoted. The study appeared Jan. 4 in the *Journal of Neuroscience*. Additional coverage included [Top News.com](#), [Nutraingredients.com](#) and others.

L.A. Times Spotlights Drug-Resistant T.B.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) featured a Jan. 18 blog Q&A with Dr. Otto Yang, professor of infectious diseases, about the discovery in India of a strain of tuberculosis that is totally drug-resistant.

Parade, KTTV Explore Protecting Our Aging Brains

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, was interviewed Jan. 13 on KTTV-Channel 11's "Studio 11 LA," and in a Jan. 15 Q&A in [Parade](#) Magazine about how to keep our brains sharp as we age. The interviews highlighted his new book, "The Alzheimer's Prevention Program."

<http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=153846&key=Z5c4dtTj9AVBaqOLBo9zvzpEncs8BY1L&email=RChampeau@mednet.ucla.edu>

Young Chef's Efforts to Promote Bone-Marrow Donation

Jack Witherspoon, an 11-year-old cookbook author who underwent a bone-marrow transplant at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA last year, and his physician, Dr. Ted Moore, chief of pediatric hematology–oncology, appeared Jan. 18 on KTTV-Channel 11. Moore explained how bone-marrow transplants are performed and how potential donors are screened. Witherspoon appeared Jan. 17 on KNBC's digital news show, "California Nonstop;" [Examiner.com](#) also reported Jan. 12 on Witherspoon's book launch.

Associated Press Covers Priest's Gambling Addiction

[Associated Press](#) reported Jan. 12 on a Catholic priest sentenced to prison for gambling away parish funds. Dr. Timothy Fong, associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and co-director of the UCLA Gambling Studies Program, provided expert testimony and was quoted in the story.

Australian Paper Explores Romance in Rats, Humans

The Hobart Mercury reported Jan. 13 about research on the sexual habits of rats and humans and cited a study by Paul Micevych, professor of neurobiology, showing that hormonal stimulants can increase female rats' desire to mate and alter their brain structure.

Local Papers Cover Tattoo-Related Infection

The [Los Angeles Daily News](#) and [Pasadena Star-News](#) ran a Jan. 16 column by Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine, division of infectious diseases, about tattoos' risk of infection. Dr. Teresa Soriano, associate clinical professor of medicine, division of dermatology, was quoted.

Online Press Links Kids' Iron Intake to Brain Structure

Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the UCLA Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, was featured in reports on his research showing that even in apparently healthy young adults, variations in iron levels correlate with variations in brain structure integrity. Coverage included the Jan. 11 [Science Fare](#); the Jan. 13 [Asian News International](#), [Yahoo News India](#), [Intelligence Daily](#) and [Hindustan Times](#); and the Jan. 14 [PsychCentral](#),

HuffPo Praises Operation Mend

A Jan. 13 column in the [Huffington Post](#) encouraging Americans to support veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan cited UCLA's Operation Mend, which provides free reconstructive surgery and other medical care to military personnel who are severely wounded and disfigured during service.

New Mexico Paper Spotlights Woman's Rare Transplant

The [Chieftain](#) (NM) ran a Jan. 14 profile of a 19-year-old woman with cystic fibrosis who underwent a rare double lung-liver transplant at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center last month.

Career Advisor's Award Attracts Applause

The [Westwood-Century City](#) and [Redondo Beach](#) editions of AOL's Patch reported Jan. 13; [Examiner](#) reported Jan. 17; and [Westside Today](#) reported Jan. 18 on Mitsue Yokota, a career advisor and well-being program coordinator in the student affairs office at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, being chosen as one of four national winners by the Association of American Medical Colleges for exceptional career development programming.

Mirror Covers New Santa Monica Campus

The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) reported Jan. 14 on the move of patients and opening of the new UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Dr. David Feinberg, president of UCLA Health System, and Dr. James Atkinson, medical director at the Santa Monica campus, were quoted.

Chicago Tribune Highlights Nutrition Expert

Susan Bowerman, assistant director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, was featured in a Jan. 18 [Chicago Tribune](#) column about how to adopt a healthier lifestyle.

BRIEFS

The Jules Stein Eye Institute was cited Jan. 16 by [Eye Doc News](#) and in Jan. 17 articles by the [Worcester Telegram](#) and the [Wall Street Journal](#) about a Philadelphia eye center joining a clinical trial started at UCLA. The Advanced Cell Technology study is testing the use of retinal pigment epithelial cells derived from human embryonic stem cells to treat dry age-related macular degeneration.

A Jan. 17 article in the [Los Angeles Times](#) cited a study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health that tracked county-by-county childhood obesity rates in California.

QUOTABLES

Dr. John DiFiori, professor of family medicine and chief of sports medicine, was quoted Jan. 18 in an [ABCNews.com](#) blog post about Denver Broncos quarterback Tim Tebow's injuries during a playoff game.

Dr. Richard Jackson, chair of environmental health sciences at the School of Public Health, was quoted Jan.17 in the (Illinois) [Daily Herald](#) about improving public health by addressing environmental issues.

Dr. Harvey Karp, assistant professor of pediatrics, was interviewed Jan. 13 on HLN's "[Dr. Drew Show](#)" about a Connecticut elementary school that uses time-out rooms for special-needs students who create disturbances.

Dr. Anita Kaul, assistant clinical professor of hematology–oncology at the UCLA Hematology and Oncology Office in Westlake, was quoted Jan. 10 by the [Ventura County Star](#) about a trauma nurse undergoing treatment for cancer.

Dr. Emeran Mayer, professor of medicine, physiology and psychiatry and director of the Oppenheimer Family Center for Neurobiology of Stress, commented Jan. 17 in a [Daily Free Press](#) article about the gut's enteric nervous system, which acts like a second brain.

Dr. David McAllister, professor-in-residence of orthopaedic surgery and director of the UCLA Sports Medicine Program, was quoted in a Jan. 19 [NBA.com](#) story about Kobe Bryant's wrist injury.

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. 12 in the [Deseret Morning News](#) about Utah's new smoke-free policies at mental health and drug-abuse treatment facilities.

Dr. Antronette Yancey, professor of health services at the School of Public Health, was quoted in the Jan. 18 [Orange County Register](#) article about "treadmill desks," which allow users to exercise while at work.

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