



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Jan. 14 - 20, 2011

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WSJ, Reuters Spotlight Medicare Recommendations

Coffee's Lowering of Diabetes Risk Draws Headlines

N.Y. Times Examines Strengthening Aging Muscles

Press Conference on Actress' Surgery Draws Wide Coverage

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Fox News Explores Saliva Test for Cancer

Technology's Impact on Physicals Grabs Attention

Pomona News Blog Salutes Medical Student

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Vet News Promotes Unique Zoobiquity Conference

Media Continue to Tap UCLA Experts for Comment on Giffords' Recovery

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WSJ, Reuters Spotlight Medicare Recommendations

The Wall Street Journal reported Jan. 18, and Reuters and La Opinion reported Jan. 19 on a study by Dr. Lenard Lesser, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, examining how Medicare can align its coverage with recommendations by the federal government on follow-up and preventive care for older adults. Other coverage included EMaxHealth, Nurse.com and California HealthLine. Lesser was quoted.

"An Ounce of Prevention May Not Equal a Penny Saved — and that's OK"

<http://blogs.wsj.com/health/2011/01/18/an-ounce-of-prevention-may-not-equal-a-penny-saved-and-thats-ok/>

"Medicare Preventive Coverage Conflicts with Experts"

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE70I5LS20110119>

"MediCare No Cubre Servicio Recomendado"

<http://www.impre.com/laopinion/noticias/la-california/2011/1/19/medicare-no-cubre-servicio-rec-234465-1.html#commentsBlock>

"Study Finds Discrepancy in Medicare Coverage of Preventive Care Services"

<http://www.californiahealthline.org/articles/2011/1/20/study-finds-discrepancy-in-medicare-coverage-of-preventive-care-services.aspx>

Coffee's Lowering of Diabetes Risk Draws Headlines

The San Bernardino Sun reported Jan. 13, and KCBS-Channel 2, KNBC-Channel 4 and KTTV-Channel 11 reported Jan. 15 on research by Dr. Simin Liu, a professor of epidemiology and medicine, showing why women who drink four cups of coffee a day have a lower risk of type 2 diabetes. Liu was cited.

"UCLA Study Explains Why Coffee Can Keep You from Getting Type 2 Diabetes"

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2011/01/15/ucla-study-explains-why-coffee-can-keep-you-from-getting-type-2-diabetes/>

"Researchers Believe They Have Identified How Drinking Caffeinated Coffee Reduces Diabetes Risk"

http://www.sbsun.com/news/ci_17089692

N.Y. Times Examines Strengthening Aging Muscles

A New York Times Jan. 18 blog post features advice from Dr. David Heber, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, on how seniors can combat sarcopenia, the incremental loss of strength that comes with aging.

"Strengthening Older Muscles"

<http://newoldage.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/01/18/strengthening-older-muscles/>

Press Conference on Actress' Surgery Draws Wide Coverage

A Jan. 14 press conference held at the request of actress Zsa Zsa Gabor's husband to update the public about his wife's surgery, was covered by Associated Press, CNN, KTLA- Channel 5, KNBC-Channel 4, Reuters TV, TMZ, Radar Online and several German TV outlets, among others. Her surgeon, Dr. David Rigberg, associate clinical professor of vascular surgery, was quoted.

"Publicist: Gabor Recovering Well After Surgery"

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20110115/ap_on_en_tv/us_people_zsa_zsa_gabor

"Zsa Zsa Gabor Amputation Surgery a Success: Publicist"

http://67.59.172.92/article/Local_News/Local_News/Zsa_Zsa_Gabor_Amputation_Surgery_A_Success_Publicist/73970

"Zsa Zsa Gabor Jokes about Losing a Leg"

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/SHOWBIZ/celebrity.news.gossip/01/16/gabor.amputation/>

L.A. Daily News Group Looks at Meningococcal Infection

The L.A. Daily News and San Gabriel Valley Tribune ran a Jan. 19 column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine, division of infectious diseases, about prevention and treatment for meningococcal infection. Dr. James Cherry, professor of pediatric infectious diseases at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted.

"New Weapons in the Meningococcal Wars"

http://www.sgvtribune.com/living/ci_17141999

Fox News Explores Saliva Test for Cancer

KTTV-Channel 11 reported Jan. 20 on research by Dr. David Wong, UCLA's Felix and Mildred Yip Endowed Professor in Dentistry and associate dean of research at the UCLA School of Dentistry, who has developed new medical techniques to detect various cancers using a saliva test.

"Spit Leads to Cancer Detection Breakthrough?"

<http://www.myfoxla.com/dpp/health/spit-cancer-detection-breakthrough-20110119#>

Technology's Impact on Physicals Grabs Attention

The Daily Breeze, L.A. Daily News, Redlands Daily Facts and San Gabriel Valley Tribune ran a Jan. 20 feature on the impact of technology on physical exams. Dr. Camelia Davtyan, clinical professor of general internal medicine and health services research, was quoted.

"Has Technology Made the Annual Physical Exam a Dying Art for Physicians?"

http://www.dailybreeze.com/lifeandculture/ci_17139043

Pomona News Blog Salutes Medical Student

Pomona Now, a regional blog of the Los Angeles Newspaper Group, ran a Dec. 30 feature on Marizabel Orellana, a third-year student at the David Geffen School of Medicine, who was one of five students presented with the prestigious Nickens Award by the Association of American Medical Colleges. The award recognized her leadership in addressing minorities' health care needs by founding a mentoring program for low-income children.

"Medical Student Recognized for Work with Pomona Youth"

<http://www.insidesocal.com/pomonanow/2010/12/medical-student-recognized-for.html>

Discovery Showcases Wonders of 3-D Microscope

A new 3-D microscope developed by Dr. Carlos Portera-Cailliau, assistant professor of neurology and neurobiology, graduate student Adrian Cheng, and Katsushi Arisaka, professor of physics, was featured Jan. 19 on Discovery.com. The team designed a microscope that records the lightning-fast 3-D patterns of neurons firing in a live brain.

"Brain Activity: Now in 3-D!"

<http://news.discovery.com/tech/brain-activity-now-in-3d.html>

Vet News Promotes Unique Zoobiquity Conference

The Veterinary News Network ran a Jan. 7 feature about an upcoming conference for veterinarians and physicians to meet and gain a better understanding of the species-spanning nature of illness.

Conference chair Dr. Barbara Natterson Horowitz, director of imaging, UCLA Cardiac Arrhythmia Center, and associate clinical professor of cardiology, was quoted. The conference is sponsored by the David Geffen School of Medicine, the UC Veterinary School of Medicine and the Los Angeles Zoo & Botanical Gardens.

"Physicians and Veterinarians to Share Perspectives"

<http://news.vin.com/VINNews.aspx?articleId=17374>

Media Continue to Tap UCLA Experts for Comment on Giffords' Recovery

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, was quoted Jan. 17 by the Pasadena Star-News about the recovery of U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords.

"Wounded Congresswoman has Long Road Ahead in Rehabilitation"

http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci_17121564

Dr. Neil Martin, chair of neurosurgery, was interviewed Jan. 19 on the "Dr. Phil Show" about the medical prognosis for Rep. Gabrielle Giffords and others who survived the Tucson shooting in Jan. 8.

"Behind the Headlines: Aftermath of a Shooting"

<http://www.drphil.com/shows/show/1583>

Dr. Marc Nuwer, professor of clinical neurology, was interviewed Jan. 17 on BBC Radio's "Health Check" program about the medical recovery of Rep. Gabrielle Giffords.

"Health Check"

http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p00d00j2/Health_Check_17_01_2011/

BRIEFS

The Santa Monica Mirror ran a Jan. 20 calendar listing on the David Geffen School of Medicine's free Jan. 22 health symposium exploring chronic disease care in the era of health reform.

"This Week"

<http://www.smmirror.com/?ajax#mode=single&view=31656>

A Jan. 15 story in the Wall Street Journal about live kidney donation noted that about half the kidney transplants performed at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center are from live donors.

"Kidney Donation Goes Prime Time"

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703791904576075821563458848.html>

UCLA's pediatric neurology department was cited in a Jan. 20 Argus Observer (OR) article about a local baby who underwent a hemispherectomy surgery at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA.
"For Former Payette Family Son's Emergency Surgery Gives Them New Hope for the Future"
<http://www.argusobserver.com/articles/2011/01/20/news/doc4d38841ec1890903400176.txt>

A Jan. 18 Redlands Daily Facts story about Gov. Jerry Brown's proposal to cut funding for adult day care cited a study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health. The study suggested that the state does not have enough nursing-home beds to accommodate the number of seniors likely to seek them as a result of the cuts.
"Adult Day Care Marked for Elimination"
http://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/tablehome/ci_17132322

QUOTABLES

Dr. David Baron, family medicine physician at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted in a Jan. 13 KNX AM1070 segment about three influenza deaths in Los Angeles County. He also commented in a Jan. 17 KNX report about early signs and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease.
<http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=139594&key=zOU4i3FT94wxAvkcbVss5DRH7lv0ncB5&email=tbraun@mednet.ucla.edu>

Dr. Gerald Berke, chief of head and neck surgery, was quoted Jan. 20 in an Associated Press report about the world's second patient to undergo a rare transplant that will restore her ability to speak, swallow and breathe independently again in more than a decade. More than 300 news outlets carried the story.
http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_MED_VOICE_BOX_TRANSPLANT?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2011-01-20-17-31-03

Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, medical director of the kidney and pancreas transplant program, commented in a Jan. 20 New York Times article about the difficulty that some foreign organ donors have in obtaining visas to enter the United States to donate to a family member or close match.
"As U.S. Patients Await Organ Transplants, Potential Donors Struggle for Visas"
<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/21/us/21transplants.html>

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented Jan. 19 on HealthDay News about a study suggesting that new blockage is usually to blame for a second heart attack. He commented Jan. 17 on HealthDay News about research linking alcohol consumption and arterial fibrillation. He commented Jan. 14 in HealthDay News about whether individuals with type-O blood have a lower risk of heart attack.
"Second Heart Attack Not Always Tied to Original Blockage"
<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=649045>
"Heavy Drinking May Boost Risk for Atrial Fibrillation"
<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=648909>
"Blood Type O Associated with Less Risk for Heart Attack"
<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=648892>

Gail Harrison, professor of community health sciences at the School of Public Health, was quoted Jan. 17 by the San Antonio Express-News about whether a food reduction during pregnancy can lead to impaired fetal brain development.
"Cutting Food by a Third in Pregnancy Led to Fetal Brain Delays, According to Animal Study"
http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local_news/article/Don-t-cut-back-on-food-in-pregnancy-961634.php

Dr. Anthony Heaney, associate professor of endocrinology and medical director of the pituitary tumor and neuroendocrine program, was quoted Jan. 17 in the Los Angeles Times about the medical condition of Apple CEO Steve Jobs. His comments were included in a Jan. 19 San Jose Mercury News story.
"Reason behind Steve Jobs' Medical Leave Unclear"
<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-steve-jobs-medical-20110118,0,2783549.story>

“Apple's Steve Jobs Likely Stricken with One of Two Conditions, Experts Say”

http://www.mercurynews.com/peninsula/ci_17120812?nclick_check=1

Steven Peckman, associate director of the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at UCLA, was quoted Jan. 14 in the Los Angeles Daily Journal about federal funding for stem cell research and how it affects investors.

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. 17 in ABCnews.com about whether Ronald Reagan suffered from early-stage Alzheimer's disease while in office.

“Could Someone Run the Country with Alzheimer's Disease?”

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/MindMoodNews/ronald-reagan-alzheimers-presidency/story?id=12633225>

Dr. Brad Spellberg, assistant professor of medicine and infectious diseases at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, commented Jan. 18 in a Delaware News Journal article about the increasing number of bacterial infections that are resistant to antibiotics.

“Are Antibiotics Losing Their Punch?”

<http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20110118/HEALTH/101180319/Are-antibiotics-losing-their-punch->

Catia Sternini, professor-in-residence in the division of digestive diseases, was quoted Jan. 19 in a Science News article about how bitter compounds affect hunger and digestion in mice.

“Bitter Flavors Boost Hunger Hormone”

http://www.usnews.com/mobile/articles_mobile/bitter-flavors-boost-hunger-hormone

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