



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Jan. 18-24, 2013**

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Media Studies Brain Damage in NFL Players

A brain-imaging study in which UCLA researchers found elevated levels of the Alzheimer's disease–related tau protein in the brains of five retired football players who had suffered one or more concussions was highlighted Jan. 22 by [NBC Nightly News](#), [CNN](#), [New York Times](#), [USA Today](#) (1) (2), the [Wall Street Journal](#), the [Los Angeles Times](#), [PBS NewsHour](#), [ESPN](#), [Yahoo Sports](#), [HealthDay](#), [Forbes](#), [KNBC-Channel 4](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [KCAL-Channel 9](#), [KTTV-Channel 11](#), [Fox News.com](#), [Frontline](#), the [San Francisco Chronicle](#), the [Toronto Star](#), [Aunt Minnie](#), [MedPage Today](#), [Sports Illustrated](#), [Discovery News](#), the [Huffington Post](#), [Insider Medicine](#), [New York Daily News](#), [Newsday](#), [Science Newsline](#), [Mother Nature Network](#), [DeadSpin.com](#) and more than 100 TV news stations across the country. Reports Jan. 23 included [CTV News](#) (Canada), [KPCC-89.3FM](#), [Medill Reports](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Daily Beast](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), [Daily Mail](#) (UK), [French Tribune](#), [Wired](#), [Contra Costa Times](#), [Diagnostic Imaging](#), [Detroit Free Press](#), [Concussion Blog](#), [Metro News](#) (Canada) and [Odzież-dziecieca Zmieniona](#) (Poland). Reports Jan. 24 include [Indo-Asian News Service](#), [Times of India](#) and many more. Study authors include: Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, and Jorge Barrio, professor of molecular and medical pharmacology. Small was quoted in the coverage.

L.A. Laker Honored for Mental Health Advocacy

An award presented to Los Angeles Laker Metta World Peace for his efforts to promote mental health was highlighted Jan. 18 by [KABC-Channel 7](#); the Los Angeles [Daily News](#), and reprinted in the [Whittier Daily News](#) and the [Huffington Post](#); Jan. 19 by [Fox News Sports West](#) and [Campuscircle.com](#); and Jan. 23 on the National Basketball Association [website](#). World Peace was presented with the UCLA Health System's CICARE Award, the highest honor awarded by the health system for extraordinary care and concern for patients. Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and CEO of the UCLA Hospital System, and Dr. Thomas Strouse, medical director of the Stewart and Lynda Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital, were quoted in the coverage.

Geffen Gift Noted in Local Paper

The Jan. 22 [Brentwood News](#) noted David Geffen's gift of \$100 million to UCLA to establish a scholarship fund that will cover the entire cost of education for the very best medical students at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine.

Photo Exhibit Gives Med Students Lesson in Compassion

[KCRW 89.9FM](#) Jan. 23 interviewed photographer Susan Myrland, a San Diego-based photographer whose "Two Belts" art exhibit will be on display at the medical school's Learning Resources Center as part of the David Geffen School of Medicine doctoring program. The exhibition is intended to help medical students understand and appreciate the day-to-day effects dementia has not only on patients but on caregivers. The [Voice of San Diego](#) blog Jan. 22 ran a brief about the exhibit.

Santa Monica Mirror Spotlights Innovative Student Training Program

The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) Jan. 17 spotlighted UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica's Care Extender Internship Program, a unique program for college students considering careers in healthcare. The care extenders, active at both the Santa Monica and Westwood campuses, provide assistance to patients, physicians and hospital staff. Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, and Silva Thomas, Care Extender program manager, were quoted.

Infectious Disease Doctor Pens Column on Skin Diseases

The Los Angeles [Daily News](#) Jan. 17 published a column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, about Stevens-Johnson Syndrome and other dermatologic illnesses. The column also ran Jan. 17 in the [Pasadena Star-News](#) and the [Whittier Daily News](#).

KPCC Examines Phone App Aimed at Safer Sex

Gail Wyatt, director of UCLA's Collaborative Center for Trauma and Mental Health Disparities and an associate director of the UCLA AIDS Institute, was interviewed Jan. 16 on KPCC-89.3 FM's "AirTalk" about a new smart-phone app that allows individuals to share online medical records documenting their STD-free status with potential sexual partners.

Examiner.com Reports on Proposed Legal Changes to Accommodate Stem Cell Advances

[Examiner.com](#) January 23 reported on a proposal by Stephen R. Munzer, Distinguished Professor of Law and member of the Eli and Edythe Broad Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research, outlining changes to regulation and civil damage award laws necessary for the FDA and the U.S. legal system to keep pace with the rapid progress of stem cell science. The proposal was published online in *Administrative Law Review*.

Boston Publication Reports on Gambling Addiction

Dr. Timothy Fong, an associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and co-director of the Gambling Studies Program, was featured in a Jan. 23 [Latitude News](#) (Boston) story about problem gambling among Asian American communities and the fact that some casinos target that population with advertising.

Media Covers Decision Regarding Chimps Used in Medical Research

Dr. Daniel Geschwind, professor of neurology, psychiatry, and genetics, and director of the Neurogenetics Program and the Center for Autism Research at the Semel Institute, was featured by multiple news organizations for his service as co-chairman of a National Institutes of Health committee that made recommendations to the agency regarding the use of chimpanzees in medical research. The committee recommended that the NIH should retire all but 50 of their colony of 360 animals to a national sanctuary. Stories ran Jan. 22 in the [Washington Post](#), [Chronicle of Higher Education](#), [Science Magazine](#), and [Nature](#); Jan.23 in [Scientific American](#), [SanAntonio.com](#), and [Care2.com](#); and Jan. 24 on [ABCNews.com](#) and ABC News radio.

Florida Newspaper Explains that Tai Chi Combats Depression in Elderly

Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Jan. 19 [Florida Today](#) article about her research finding that practicing tai chi helped depressed seniors lower their depression levels.

Media highlights New Target for Fighting Alzheimer's

David Teplow, professor of neurology, was featured in Jan.23 [Examiner.com](#) and [Scrupsreport.com](#), articles about his research that, for the first time, isolated a unique hairpin-like segment of a toxic protein associated with Alzheimer's disease, that may be a precise target for drug delivery that would slow or stop the disease.

KPCC Reviews Hospital Bills

Los Angeles Times columnist David Lazarus was interviewed Jan. 22 on KPCC 89.3FM's "[Marketplace](#)" about medical bills resulting from his hospital stay at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and CEO of the UCLA Hospital System, was cited.

French Science Magazine Explores Brain Connections

Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging (LONI), was featured in the February issue of the French science magazine [Science et Vie](#). The article discussed Thompson's brain mapping work and the ongoing effort to map connections and pathways in the human brain, part of the NIH-funded "Human Connectome Project."

O Magazine Says Be Here, Be Now!

Diana Winston, director of mindfulness education at the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center at the Semel Institute, was featured in the January issue of O, The Oprah Magazine. Winston discussed the practice of mindfulness, the technique of focusing on the present, as opposed to worrying about the past or future.

Media Weighs in on Childhood Obesity-linked Health Problems

[Endocrine Today](#) reported Jan. 17; [Xinhua News](#) and the [Providence Journal](#) (R.I.) reported Jan.18; and NPR affiliate [WEKU 88.9FM](#) (Kentucky) reported Jan. 22 on a study led by Dr. Neal Halfon, professor of pediatrics, public health and public policy and director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families

and Communities, that found that obese children are at far greater risk for a variety of other immediate health problems than was previously thought. Halfon was quoted.

Chair of Urology Department Interviewed on KFI's Bill Carroll Show

Dr. Mark Litwin, chair of the UCLA Department of Urology, was interviewed live Jan. 18 on the Bill Carroll Show on KFI 640AM about steroid use and testicular cancer.

Ventura County Star Cites Upcoming Seminar on non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

The [Ventura County Star](#) Jan. 23 highlighted the research of and a seminar on non-Hodgkin's lymphoma to be given by Dr. Anita Kaul, assistant clinical professor of medicine in the division of hematology/oncology.

BRIEFS

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was mentioned in a Jan. 17 [Orange County Register](#) story about a 14-year-old kidney transplant patient who released an album of original music.

Dr. Alice Kuo, associate professor of internal medicine, pediatrics and health services, was cited Jan. 15 in the [Los Angeles Times](#) and Jan. 21 in the [Beverly Hills Courier](#) about a recent study that found young children should have their hearing tested more frequently.

The UCLA Lung Transplant program was noted Jan. 22 in a [Westside Today](#) roundup of local stories that made recent headlines. The article reported that UCLA performed the nation's first breathing lung transplant in November using experimental technology that delivered the donor lungs warm and breathing, instead of in an ice cooler.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Noel Boyle, professor of medicine and director of the electrophysiology lab at the Cardiac Arrhythmia Center, commented Jan. 22 in an [Everyday Health](#) article about causes of atrial fibrillation.

Dr. James Cherry, professor of pediatric infectious diseases at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted Jan. 18 in a [KPCC 89.3FM](#) online article on how individuals can die from the flu.

Dr. Eric Esrailian, vice chief of the division of digestive diseases, commented in a Jan. 23 [CNN.com](#) article on the use of tablet apps for patient intake information.

Dr. Greg Fonarow, UCLA's Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted Jan. 22 in a [CBS News.com](#) article and in a [HealthDay News](#) article about research suggesting that daily aspirin consumption may increase the risk of age-related macular degeneration.

Dr. Linda Liao, professor of neurosurgery and a researcher at the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted in a Jan. 18 [HealthDay News](#) article about research on the development of cancer vaccines.

Dylan Roby, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research's health economics and evaluation research program, part of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a Jan. 20 [Associated Press](#) article about Arizona's plans to fund the expansion of Medicaid in the state by implementing a new tax on hospitals.

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