For the week of Jan. 29 – Feb. 4, 2010

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CNN, Scientific American Report New Wrinkle in Body Dysmorphic Disorder

L.A. Times, Local TV Applaud Platelet Donors’ Gift of Life

Clean Air’s Link to Fewer Ear Infections Draws Headlines

Breakthrough in Alzheimer’s Research Garners Coverage

L.A. Times, Local Media Cover Expansion of Medical Space

Researchers Sequence Brain Cancer Cell’s Genome

In Memoriam: Dr. Charles Lewis, Expert in Health Care Delivery, Preventive Medicine

ExtraTV Features Pulmonary Expert

Santa Monica Physician Comments on Medical Journal’s Retraction

MedPage Today Explores Broad Spectrum Antivirals

Local Press Announce Santa Monica Family Wellness Center

O.C. Register Profiles Heart Transplant Recipient’s Journey

Miller-McCune Spotlights Huntington’s Advance

Radio Show Explains Google’s Impact on the Brain

Web Outlets Explore Gene Variant for Parkinson’s Disease

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CNN, Scientific American Report New Wrinkle in Body Dysmorphic Disorder

New research by Dr. Jamie Feusner, assistant professor of psychiatry and director of the Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Intensive Treatment Program, was featured Feb. 1 by CNN.com, Scientific American, AOL News and HealthDay News, and Feb. 2 by MedPage Today. He discovered that people suffering from body dysmorphic disorder display abnormal brain activity when looking at their own faces. “Body Dysmorphic Disorder Patients See Details, Not Whole Face”

http://www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/02/01/body.dysmorphic.disorder/

“Visual Processing Plays Role in Body Dysmorphic Disorder”
“Less Than a Pretty Face: Brain Scans Show How a Disorder Leads Individuals to Perceive Themselves as Ugly”

L.A. Times, Local TV Applaud Platelet Donors’ Gift of Life

KNBC-Channel 4, KTLA-Channel 5 and KABC-Channel 7 reported Jan. 29 and the Los Angeles Times and Sing Tao newspaper reported Jan. 30 on a single mother of four who was the first UCLA cancer patient to meet and thank 11 strangers who saved her life by regularly donating blood platelets. The coverage took place during Friday’s annual blood-donor recognition luncheon hosted by the UCLA Blood & Platelet Center. Dr. Alyssa Ziman, center medical director, was interviewed in the Channel 7 segment; Linda Goss, center recruitment director, appeared in the Channel 4 story; and donor Amy Wong, a library assistant at the Charles E. Young Research Library, was quoted in the Times piece. Wong and engineering graduate student, Jonathan Quan, also were featured in the Sing Tao story.

“UCLA Leukemia Patient Thanks Blood Donors”

Clean Air’s Link to Fewer Ear Infections Draws Headlines

City News Service, KNBC-Channel 4, KABC-Channel 7 and KTTV-Channel 11 on Jan. 31; United Press International and Environment News on Feb. 1; Xinhua News on Feb. 2; Pediatric Supersite, About.com and WALO 1240AM (Puerto Rico) on Feb. 3, and others reported on a UCLA studying linking air quality improvements with a drop in cases of ear infections in children. Co-author Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA and associate professor of surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

“Air Pollution Linked to Ear Infections”

Breakthrough in Alzheimer's Research Garners Coverage

The brain-imaging research of Liana Apostolova, an assistant clinical professor of neurology, that detects subtle changes that may predict Alzheimer’s disease before symptoms appear, was featured Jan. 31 by KCOP-Channel 11, KCBS-Channel 2 and Asian News International, and Feb. 1 by KABC-Channel 7, Xinhua News Service and the Times of India.

“UCLA Makes Breakthrough in Alzheimer’s Research”

L.A. Times, Local Media Cover Expansion of Medical Space

The Feb. 1 Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles Daily News and KPCC 89.3FM reported on the UC Board of Regents’ plan to rent a new medical facility in Santa Monica to provide more room for the teaching and health care programs of the UCLA Health System and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. David Feinberg, CEO and associate vice chancellor of the UCLA Hospital System, was quoted. Additionally, the Santa Monica Daily Press reported the news on Feb. 2. Posie Carpenter, chief administrative officer for Santa Monica–UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted in the Daily Press.

“UC Signs $147-million Deal to Rent a Santa Monica Medical Facility”
Researchers Sequence Brain Cancer Cell's Genome

HealthDay and Genome Web Daily reported Jan. 29 that a team led by Dr. Stanley Nelson, professor of human genetics and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, had successfully performed the first complete genomic sequencing of a brain cancer cell line. Web outlets Ivanhoe Newswire, HealthJockey.com, MedicalQuack.com and BeWellBuddy.com also reported the findings. The HealthDay report appeared on BusinessWeek.com.

“One Step Closer to Personalized Cancer Treatment”
http://www.ivanhoe.com/channels/p_channelstory.cfm?storyid=23436

“UCLA Team Sequences Brain Cancer Cell Line”

“Scientists Decode Brain Cancer Cell Line”
http://www.businessweek.com/lifestyle/content/healthday/635460.html

In Memoriam: Dr. Charles Lewis, Expert in Health Care Delivery, Preventive Medicine

The Los Angeles Times published a Feb. 2 obituary about Dr. Charles Lewis, professor emeritus of health services, nursing and family medicine and an expert on health care delivery and preventive medicine, who died Jan. 7. Dr. Martin Shapiro, chief of general internal medicine and health services research, was quoted.

“PASSINGS: Charles Lewis”
http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-me-passings2-2010feb02,0,3583914.story

ExtraTV Features Pulmonary Expert

ExtraTV aired a Feb. 3 segment about chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), which damages the lungs making it difficult to breathe. Dr. Christopher Cooper, professor of medicine and physiology, was interviewed in the UCLA Exercise Physiology Research Laboratory.

“ExtraTV: COPD”
http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=121505&key=WCh8NyxbuAS2blLVEyF6244P8qK55&email=rchampeau@mednet.ucla.edu

Santa Monica Physician Comments on Medical Journal’s Retraction

Dr. David Baron, chief of staff at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was interviewed Feb. 2 by KNX 1070AM and KTTV-Channel 11 about the British medical journal Lancet retracting a study on vaccines and autism 12 years after publication.


MedPage Today Explores Broad Spectrum Antivirals

MedPage Today posted a Feb. 3 article on a multi-site study led by a UCLA team describing a compound that targets a class of virus causing a host of deadly diseases, including AIDS and Ebola. The study was also covered Feb. 2 by Asian News International, TG Daily and All Headline News, among others.

“Novel Compound Blocks Many Viruses”
http://www.medpagetoday.com/InfectiousDisease/GeneralInfectiousDisease/18273

“New Compound Fights Multiple Viruses”

“Antiviral Compound that Targets numerous Deadly Viruses Identified”
http://www.topnews.in/health/antiviral-compound-targets-numerous-deadly-viruses-identified-26003

Local Press Announce Santa Monica Family Wellness Center
The Santa Monica Mirror reported Jan. 28 and The Argonaut reporter Feb. 4 that the UCLA Family Commons, part of the Semel Institute, opened a family wellness center in Santa Monica on Feb. 4. The center is dedicated to helping families raise healthier children and promote fitness and well-being. Family Commons directors Diane Flannery and Mary Jane Rotheram-Borus were cited.

"Wellness Center Grand Opening"
http://www.smmirror.com/MainPages/DisplayArticleDetails.asp?eid=11855
"Grand Opening Set for UCLA Family Commons Wellness Center Feb. 4"

O.C. Register Profiles Heart Transplant Recipient’s Journey
The Orange County Register ran a Feb. 3 profile of a woman who passed away after two heart transplants at UCLA – the first 11 years ago and the second last December. Her longtime cardiologist, Dr. Jon Kobashigawa, former medical director of the UCLA Heart Transplant program, was interviewed.

“Second Heart Transplant Too Much for Patient”
http://www.ocregister.com/articles/-232334--.html

Miller-McCune Spotlights Huntington’s Advance
A health blog in Miller-McCune magazine reported Jan. 30 on a study led by Dr. X. William Yang, associate professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, in which researchers identified a molecular "switch" that can prevent the onset of Huntington’s disease in mice.

“Turning Off Huntington’s Disease”

Radio Show Explains Google’s Impact on the Brain
The “Takeaway,” a morning news program on WNYC FM/AM (New York), featured a segment about a recent New Yorker cartoon entitled, “Google Magazine.” Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, joined the program to explain what happens to the brain during an Internet search.

“This is Your Brain on Google”
http://www.thetakeaway.org/2010/feb/04/your-brain-google/

Web Outlets Explore Gene Variant for Parkinson’s Disease
Dr. Beate Ritz, professor of epidemiology at the School of Public Health, was featured in a Jan. 22 article on News-medical-Net, Jan. 21 RedOrbit.com and Jan. 23 on Science Daily about her research suggesting that people with a common gene variant have a higher risk of Parkinson’s disease after exposure to agricultural pesticides.

“Study Shows Certain Heart Medications May Decrease Risk of Parkinson's Disease”

“Common Heart Medications May Also Protect Against Parkinson's Disease”
http://www.redorbit.com/news/health/1812805/common_heart_medications_may_also_protect_against_parkinsons_disease/index.html?source=r_health

“Common Heart Medications May Also Protect Against Parkinson’s Disease, Study Finds”
http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/01/100122102849.htm

BRIEFS

The Feb. 4 calendar of Westside Today noted two March events sponsored by UCLA Arts and Healing.

“Learn Simple Rituals to Help Deal with the Stress of Playing Multiple Life Roles”
http://www.westsidetoday.com/n2196/learn-simple-rituals-to.html

“Learn How to Breathe Easier”
http://www.westsidetoday.com/n2195/learn-how-to-breathe.html
Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital was cited in a Feb. 2 article on CBS News.com and in a Feb. 4 report in Payers & Providers newsletter about a Consumer Reports study on central-line infection rates at hospitals nationwide.

“Hospitals Rated on Post-Surgery Infections”

“Central Line Infections All Over Map”

Miller-McCune magazine ran a Feb. 4 story on the toxicology of nanoparticles that cited a Science journal review by Dr. Andre Nel, chief of nanomedicine, and colleagues, about establishing principles and test procedures to ensure safe manufacturing and use of these tiny materials.

“Toxicology of the Tiny”

**QUOTABLES**

Dr. David Baron, chief of staff at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was interviewed Jan. 27 on KNX 1070 AM after a teenager was rescued from the rubble 15 days after the earthquake in Haiti.

Dr. David Heber, professor of medicine and public health and director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, commented Feb. 4 in an MSNBC article about a study showing that spending time in higher altitudes may help obese people lose weight.

“Losing the Weight War? Head to the Mountain”
http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/35220214/ns/health-fitness/

David Hovda, professor of neurosurgery and director of the Brain Injury Research Center, was quoted in a Jan. 4 Los Angeles Times health blog about traumatic brain injury.

“Breaking through the Silence of the Seemingly Unconscious: Researchers Read the Minds of the Vegetative”

Dr. Clifford Ko, professor of surgery, was quoted Feb. 1 in a Wall Street Journal column about calculators provided by the American College of Surgeons that help hospitals assess individuals' risk of surgical complications or death.

“New Ways to Calculate the Risks of Surgery”

Dr. James McCracken, Campbell Professor of Child Psychiatry and director of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a Feb. 1 Wall Street Journal article about possible explanations of why a child born in northwest Los Angeles is four times as likely to be diagnosed with autism as a child born elsewhere in California.

“L.A. Confidential: Seeking Reasons for Autism’s Rise”
http://online.wsj.com/article/SB100014240527487034222904575039351632663996.html?mod=rss_law

Dr. Thomas Yoshikawa, professor-in-residence of geriatrics, was quoted Jan. 28 in a WebMD article about a study finding that overweight older people tend to live longer than those who are not overweight.

“Overweight Older People Live Longer”

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