



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Jan. 31-Feb. 6, 2014**

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Pesticides and Parkinson's Study Garners Widespread Coverage

[Examiner.com](#), [HealthDay](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Rodale News](#), [WebMD](#), [Medical Daily](#), [Healthline News](#), [Huffington Post](#), [Science Codex](#), [Science Daily](#), [Science Newsline](#), [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#), [All Voices](#), [Live Science](#), [Drugs.com](#), [EIN News](#) and [Medical World Nigeria](#) Feb. 3 and [Medical News Today](#), [Zee News](#), [Science Recorder](#), [MedPage Today](#), [Food Exposed](#), [Health Canal](#), [Health Journal](#), [News Inferno](#), [Asian News International](#), [Health Newsline](#), [News Max Health](#), [the Almagest](#), [Yuba Net](#), [San Diego County News](#), [Technology](#), [News-Medical.net](#), [Nature World News](#), [Sierra Sun Times](#), [Top News](#), [Genetics Roundup](#), [Science World Report](#), [KGET-TV](#) (Bakersfield), [New England Cable News](#), [WLTZ-TV](#) (Columbus, Ga.), [WTVA-TV](#) (Columbus, Mo.), [KMTR-TV](#) (Eugene, Ore.), [WJBK-TV](#) (Detroit), [KOB-TV](#) (Albuquerque, N.M.), [KALB-TV](#) (Alexandria, La.), [WVVA-TV](#) (Bluefield, W.V.) and 30 other television stations nationwide Feb. 4; [redOrbit](#), [One Pakistan](#), [Radio Vocea Basarabiei](#), [Sanatate](#), [Galileo](#), [Cerceteaza](#), [Prevention](#) and [Zaire Live](#) Feb. 5; and [Medscape](#) Feb. 6 featured a study that linked certain pesticides to increased risk of Parkinson's disease. Dr. Jeff Bronstein, professor of neurology and director of movement disorders at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Beate Ritz, professor of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, were quoted. The HealthDay story also appeared in [Newsday](#), [MSN](#), [Health](#), [Philly.com](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), [Wellness.com](#), [Rapid News](#), [Doctors Lounge](#) and dozens of other outlets. The Asian News International story also appeared in the [Business Standard](#), [Sify News](#) and [News Track India](#).

Mom Meets Lifesaving Blood Donors

[KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KNBC-Channel 4](#), [KTLA-Channel 5](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [KCAL-Channel 9](#), [KMEX-Channel 34](#) and the Spanish-language wire service [EFE](#) reported Jan. 31 on a reunion organized by the UCLA Blood and Platelet Center at which a mother who almost died after hemorrhaging during childbirth at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center met the donors whose blood and platelets helped saved her life. Telemundo's morning show, "El Nuevo Dia," aired a Feb. 3 segment and Santa Clarita's [KHTS 1220AM](#) also covered the emotional meeting. UCLA maternal-fetal specialist Dr. Tina Nguyen, Calderon's delivering physician, and platelet donor Ricardo Barboza, UCLA's deputy fire marshal, were quoted.

Osteoporosis Screening Guidelines Garner Media Scrutiny

A study led by Dr. Carolyn Crandall, professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that current osteoporosis screening guidelines may miss about two-thirds of women aged 50 to 64, garnered media coverage. Reports were carried Jan. 30 by [Health Canal](#); Jan. 31 by [MDLinx](#); Feb. 2 by [Examiner.com](#), [Stone Hearth News](#) and [Imperial Valley News](#); and Feb. 5 by [Medical News Today](#).

Narcolepsy and the Brain

Dr. Jerome Siegel, professor of psychiatry and director of the Center for Sleep Research at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, was featured Feb. 5 in the PBS documentary "[Healthy Body Healthy Mind](#)," in which he discussed the symptoms of, misconceptions about and treatments for narcolepsy.

Calculating Heart Failure Risk

Dr. Tamara Horwich, assistant professor of medicine in the division of cardiology, was interviewed Feb. 4 on [KABC-Channel 7](#) about a smartphone "risk calculator" she and colleagues developed that helps predict heart failure patients' five-year survival chances and assists doctors in determining whether more or less aggressive treatment is appropriate.

Al Jazeera Reports on Aging Heart

Dr. Jamil Aboulhosn, director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center and assistant clinical professor of medicine in the division of cardiology, was interviewed Feb. 2 on [Al Jazeera America](#) about aging, the human heart and potential treatments for heart disease.

When Good Cholesterol Goes Bad

Dr. Andrew Watson, associate professor of medicine in the division of cardiology, was interviewed Jan. 30 on [KABC-Channel 7](#) about recent study findings showing that HDL or "good" cholesterol can turn "bad" when it attaches to artery walls, leading to coronary artery disease.

KTTV Covers Rise in Flu Deaths

[KTTV-Channel 11](#) Jan. 31 covered the rise in flu deaths seen in California and interviewed Dr. Mark Morocco, clinical professor of medicine and emergency medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center Emergency Department.

Improving Patient Care with Telemedicine

[Examiner.com](#) Feb. 3 and [MDlinx](#) Feb. 4 reported on recent research co-authored by Dr. Molly Coye, chief innovation officer for the UCLA Health System, highlighting how telemedicine and personal health technologies will help make health care delivery more efficient and cost-effective for both patients and doctors.

Teen Gets New Heart

Univision's "[Primer Impacto](#)" Jan. 30 aired a story on a teenage girl who got a successful heart transplant last year and wants to promote her message of organ donor awareness. Her physician, Dr. Juan Alejos, professor of pediatric cardiology and medical director of the pediatric heart transplant program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was interviewed.

Award of Excellence in Nursing

[Nurse.com](#) reported Jan. 31 that Salpy Akaragian, clinical education specialist and director of international nursing programs in the UCLA Department of Nursing Research and Education, was honored with a 2013 Nursing Excellence GEM Award for her volunteerism and service. Dr. Akira Ishiyama, professor of head and neck surgery, was quoted.

Dangers of Childhood Obesity

The [Atlanta Black Star](#) reported Jan. 30 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.

Science Site Measures Bone Health and Marriage

[Science 2.0](#) reported Jan. 30 on a study suggesting that men who marry or are in committed, stable relationships prior to age 25 have weaker bones than those who marry after that age.

Risk-Taking and the Brain

The [Indo-Asian News Service](#) reported Feb. 5 on a study by researchers from the Semel Institute and colleagues suggesting that when individuals engage in risky behaviors such as drunk driving or unsafe sex, it is likely because the self-control systems in their brains are not active enough.

Syndrome Involves Intense Pain

Dr. Joshua Prager, assistant clinical professor of anesthesiology in the pain management program at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, was interviewed Feb. 4 on [KCBS-Channel 2](#) about a rare disorder known as complex regional pain syndrome.

Testosterone Therapy and Heart Attacks

[KABC-Channel 7](#) and [KNX-1070 AM](#) Feb. 2 and [KCAL-Channel 9](#) and a [New York Times](#) editorial Feb. 4 highlighted a study by Dr. Sander Greenland, professor of statistics and of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and colleagues showing that men over the age of 65 and men under 65 with a history of heart disease are twice as likely to have a heart attack after beginning testosterone therapy.

The Developing Adolescent Brain

Dr. Daniel Siegel, clinical professor of psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and co-founder of UCLA's Mindful Awareness Research Center, was interviewed Feb. 2 on Pennsylvania's [WHYY-90.9 FM](#) about his book "Brainstorm: The Power and Purpose of the Teenage Brain," which explores teenage behavior and the development of the adolescent brain.

UCLA Scientists Receive CIRM Basic Biology V Grants

[Imperial Valley News](#) Feb. 2 featured a story on the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) awarding four new basic biology grants to members of UCLA's Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research: Dr. Lili Yang, assistant professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics, Dr. Denis Evseenko, assistant professor of orthopedic surgery, Dr. Thomas Otis, professor and chair of neurobiology, Dr. Ben Novitch, assistant professor of neurobiology, and Dr. Samantha Butler, assistant professor of neurobiology. Dr. Owen Witte, director of the Broad Stem Cell Research Center was quoted in the coverage.

Phase II Trial Completed for Breakthrough Breast Cancer Drug

[OncLive](#) reported Feb. 3 on the promising results of the recently completed Phase II trial of palbociclib, a breast cancer drug being investigated at UCLA that received "Breakthrough Therapy" designation from the FDA last year. Dr. Richard Finn, assistant professor of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology, was quoted.

Melanoma Patient Gets New Lease on Life

Ozy.com Feb 5 reported on new cancer immunotherapy drugs for melanoma, one of which saved the life of Therese Bocklage, a patient at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center who is in the care of Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology. Ribas was quoted.

Pomegranate Product Research Explored

The Feb. 4 [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) highlighted David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA research on the potential health benefits of pomegranate products and the connection between researchers and a pomegranate products company. Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and associate vice chancellor for health sciences, was quoted; Dr. Louis J. Ignarro, professor of molecular and medical pharmacology at the Geffen School, and Dr. David Heber, professor at the Geffen School and director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, were cited. An accompanying CHE [article](#) profiled the UCLA School of Law's Resnick Program for Food and Law Policy and its executive director, Michael T. Roberts. Roberts was quoted.

BRIEFS

The UCLA Health System and Dr. Molly Coye, chief innovation officer for the UCLA Health System, were mentioned in a Feb. 5 [Hospital Impact](#) article on the importance of innovation in healthcare.

The Los Angeles Times Feb. 6 featured a photograph of an event sponsored by the Clinical Translational Science Institute that brought environmental activist Erin Brockovich together with 200 underprivileged LAUSD students for a motivational speech.

UCLA Medical Center was mentioned in a Jan. 30 [KTVU-TV](#) (Oakland, Calif.) story about a patient seeking a heart transplant.

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center were mentioned in a Feb. 3 [Wall Street Journal](#) article on strategies hospitals use to keep patients and their visitors from getting lost. The story included a photo of a Care Extender volunteer at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica.

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was mentioned Feb. 3 in an [Al Jazeera America](#) blog written by a producer who changed her mind about signing up to become an organ donor after working on a story about heart transplantation at UCLA and meeting patients who needed life-saving organs.

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was cited Feb. 4 in a Grocery Headquarters report that Ralphs Grocery Co. is launching a fundraising campaign to benefit several children's hospitals in southern California, including UCLA. Ralphs customers can donate their spare change in collection canisters located at the check-out stands in their neighborhood Ralphs supermarket campaign through May 24.

A Feb. 4 article in the [Portland Oregonian](#) about food allergies among children referenced research by UCLA's Food and Drug Allergy Care Center linking the increased prevalence of food allergies to the elimination of children's exposure to germs in a hyper-clean society.

A column published Jan. 31 in South Carolina's [Greenville News](#) about fad diets referenced a UCLA study that found that two-thirds of individuals who diet end up regaining more weight than they lost while dieting.

QUOTABLES

Susan Bowerman, assistant director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, was quoted Feb. 6 in a [Huffington Post](#) article about a "Biggest Loser" winner who lost 60 percent of her weight during the program, which some people believe might have been excessive.

Dr. Suzanne Donovan, UCLA associate clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, was interviewed Jan. 31 on [KCBS-Channel 2](#) about deaths from the flu, which in California have already reached 147 — significantly more than last year.

Dr. Timothy Fong, associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Impulse Control Disorders Clinic, was quoted Jan. 30 in a [Washington Post](#) article about casinos attempting to appeal to an Asian clientele.

Dr. Nelson Freimer, professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Center for Neurobehavioral Genetics, was quoted Jan. 30 in an article in Britain's [Guardian](#) about the difficulties of recreating human brain disorders in animal test subjects.

Dr. Shaun Hussain, assistant clinical professor of pediatric neurology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted Jan.31 in an [Orange County Register](#) column about the relationship between physicians and the pharmaceutical industry.

Dr. Emeran Mayer, professor of digestive diseases, physiology and psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and executive director of UCLA's Oppenheimer Family Center for Neurobiology of Stress, was quoted Jan. 26 in a [London Times](#) article about the influence of food companies on scientific research.

Dr. Larissa Mooney, assistant professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Addiction Medicine Clinic, was quoted in a Feb. 4 [Reuters](#) article about the death of actor Philip Seymour Hoffman from an apparent heroin overdose. Mooney noted that addiction is a chronic brain disease.

Dr. Mark Morocco, clinical professor of medicine and emergency medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center Emergency Department, was quoted Jan. 31 in an [ABC News.com](#) report about hypothermia and a woman who was trapped outdoors overnight after getting her hand stuck underneath the hood of her car.

Dr. Greg Perens, assistant clinical professor of pediatric cardiology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted Feb. 3 in a [WJXT-TV](#) (Jacksonville, Fla.) story about newborn heart screenings that help find hidden congenital heart problems in newborn babies.

Dr. Thomas Rice, distinguished professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Feb. 5 in a [Washington Post](#) article about supplemental health insurance policies that aim to help consumers fill gaps in their existing coverage.

Dr. Ronald Swerdloff, professor of medicine in the division of endocrinology, was quoted Feb. 4 in a [New York Times](#) article about the potential cardiovascular risks of testosterone therapy.

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