



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Feb. 7-13, 2014**

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BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

NPR, NY Daily News Cover “Lung in a Box”

The Web site of [National Public Radio](#) Feb. 10, the [New York Daily News](#) and [Medical Daily](#) Feb. 11, and [Al Jazeera America's TechKnow](#) Feb. 12 reported on “lung in a box,” an experimental device being used at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center that keeps donor lungs alive and “breathing” prior to transplantation. Dr. Abbas Ardehali, director of the heart and lung transplantation program, was quoted.

Stroke Study Grabs Headlines

[Examiner.com](#), [Health News Digest](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [News-Medical.net](#) and [EIN News](#) Feb. 13 reported on a study that tested IV magnesium administration within an hour of stroke symptom onset. Dr. Jeffrey Saver, director of the UCLA Stroke Center and professor of neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Dr. Sidney Starkman, co-director of the UCLA Stroke Center and professor of emergency medicine and neurology at the Geffen School, were quoted.

Public Health Expert Explains Affordable Care Act

Dr. Dylan Roby, director of the health economics and evaluation research program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and an assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, published an op-ed Feb. 9 on [CNN.com](#) in which he challenged AOL chief Tim Armstrong's explanation that the company was cutting contributions to its employees' retirement accounts because of costs resulting from the Affordable Care Act. He was also quoted Feb. 9 in an [Associated Press](#) article about the financial future of Covered California, the state's healthcare exchange. The AP article ran in numerous outlets, including Feb. 9 in the [Monterey Herald](#) and the KQED-TV Channel 32 (San Francisco) [website](#), and Feb. 10 in [Business Week](#). Separately, Roby was quoted in a Feb. 12 [Wall Street Journal](#) article (subscription) about the newspaper's analysis that thousands of Americans living in poorer counties have few choices of health insurers and face high premiums through the online exchanges created by the health-care law.

Local TV Highlights Testosterone Therapy and Heart Attacks

Research 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 suffer a heart attack after beginning testosterone therapy, was featured Feb. 6 on [KNBC-Channel 4](#) and Feb. 11 on [KTTV-Channel 11](#). Dr. Karol Watson, professor of medicine in the division of cardiology, commented in the KTTV report and also provided tips for maintaining a healthy heart including exercise and maintaining an optimal weight.

Surgeon, Singer, Songwriter

Dr. Charles Brunnicardi, chief of general surgery at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was profiled in the Feb. 14 [Palisadian-Post](#). Brunnicardi recently released a folk album that has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in music. Robbi Sanchez, who works in his research lab, was cited in the story.

Children's Heart Center Heals Small Hearts

[Examiner.com](#) and the [Beverly Hills Courier](#) (pg. 12) reported Feb. 7 on the opening of the Children's Heart Center at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, which will provide medical care for children with heart diseases, beginning with prenatal care and continuing into young adulthood. The center's medical director, Dr. Mark Sklansky, professor and chief of pediatric cardiology at UCLA, was quoted.

Erin Brockovich Visit Draws Media Attention

[Annenberg TV News](#) and [City News Service](#) Feb. 5, and [Neon Tommy](#) Feb. 11 featured a UCLA event sponsored by the Clinical Translational Science Institute that brought environmental activist Erin Brockovich together with 200 underprivileged Los Angeles Unified School District students. The City News Service story appears in the Westwood-Century City and Agoura Patch sites.

NPH Receives Top Nursing Award

[Becker's Hospital Review](#) Feb. 6 noted that the Lynda and Stewart Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital was one of six winners of the American Nurses Association (ANA) 2013 National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators awards announced at its 2014 ANA Quality Conference in Phoenix. These hospitals demonstrated the sustained ability to meet and exceed the ANA's standards for patient safety and quality of care benchmarks. Pat Matos, chief nursing officer and director of nursing at the Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital, and Kandace Whiting, program director for the hospital's Magnet program, were quoted.

Regaining Hand Movement after Paralysis?

[Becker's Spine Review](#) reported Feb. 7 and [News-Medical.net](#) and [Phys.org](#) reported Feb. 10 on a \$6 million, five-year grant awarded by the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering to UCLA researchers Dr. Daniel Lu and Reggie Edgerton to explore ways to restore hand function after cervical spinal-cord injury. Lu is an assistant professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a clinician at the UCLA Spine Center, and Edgerton is a distinguished professor of integrative biology and physiology at UCLA and of neurosurgery and neurobiology at the Geffen School.

Local Heroes Honored for Life-saving Gift

The [Palisadian-Post](#) published a Feb. 13 story about Richard McAndrews, a local man who donated platelets to save the life of Jennifer Calderon, a UCLA patient who nearly died from blood loss after the birth of her son. [The Malibu Times](#) also reported Feb. 6 on the same donation by Mary Chuhinko, another of the seven strangers who met Jennifer for the first time at a Jan. 31 event organized by the UCLA Blood & Platelet Center.

Louisville Newspaper Says Love More, Be Healthier

Research by Dr. Steven Cole, a professor of medicine in the division of hematology/oncology and a member of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Feb. 9 [Louisville Courier-Journal](#) article about research on love and relationships. The article cited a study he led showing that although happiness can affect our genes, those whose happiness stems from a deep sense of purpose and meaning in life show a favorable genetic expression while those whose happiness comes from self-gratification show an adverse expression.

Turning 'Food Deserts' into Healthy Oases

Dr. Alex Ortega, director of the UCLA–USC Center for Population Health and Health Disparities and a professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed Feb. 10 on NPR's "[The Salt](#)" about a project by the Center and the Fielding School to transform corner markets in parts of Los Angeles with high rates of diabetes into healthy-food stores that sell fresh fruits and vegetables, bottled water and nutritious snacks.

Hallmark Channel Highlights the Heart

The [Hallmark Channel's "Home & Family"](#) show Feb. 12 featured an in-studio segment with Dr. Karol Watson, professor of medicine in the division of cardiology and director of the UCLA Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Health Program, who discussed the impact of cold temperatures on the heart, how heart attack symptoms can differ between men and women and tips to ensure a healthy heart.

Super Bowl Party Addresses Education

A Feb. 2 Los Angeles [Daily News](#) story featured an annual Super Bowl party given by Dr. Gary Gitnick, chief of the division of digestive diseases, professor of medicine and founder of the Fulfillment Fund, a non-profit organization that helps under-served students access college through mentoring, counseling, motivational in-school curriculum and other support programs. The event was attended by a number of Los Angeles education and political leaders, including Mayor Eric Garcetti and United Teachers of Los Angeles President Warren Fletcher. A town hall panel was held during half-time to discuss key education issues.

Heart Disease Risk and Calcium Supplements

An [NBC Newschannel](#) story about women's heart disease risk from taking calcium supplements featured an interview with Dr. Karol Watson, professor of medicine in the division of cardiology, and director of the UCLA Barbara Streisand Women's Heart Health Program. The story aired on 68 stations nationwide, including WLVI-TV (Boston), KONG-TV (Tacoma, Wash.), KOAA-TV (Colorado Springs, Colo.), KALB-TV (Alexandria, La.), KGET-TV (Bakersfield, Calif.), KSBY-TV (Santa Barbara, Calif.), KTUU-TV (Anchorage, Alaska), WZVN-TV (Naples, Fla.), and many others. A UCLA patient was also interviewed.

Pesticide Study Covered by Imperial Valley News, Florida Radio Show

The [Imperial Valley News](#) on Feb. 9 featured a study that linked certain pesticides to increased risk of Parkinson's disease. Jeff Bronstein, professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Movement Disorders Program, and Beate Ritz, professor of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public

Health, were quoted. Additionally, Bronstein was a guest Feb. 9 on the radio show Health IQ to talk about the study.

BRIEFS

UCLA Health System's affiliation with CVS Caremark's MinuteClinic in an effort to improve the quality and affordability of healthcare services was cited in a Feb. 7 [Fierce HealthCare](#) article on a trend that patients are choosing retail clinics for care instead of traditional hospital and physician practice services based on cost and convenience, according to a survey from PwC's Health Research Institute.

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was referenced in a Feb. 12 [Ventura County Star](#) story about preparations for this weekend's northbound 405 Freeway closure known as "Jamzilla."

QUOTABLES

Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, medical director of the UCLA Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Program, was quoted Feb. 12 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about a new study finding that people who donate a kidney face a slightly elevated risk for end stage kidney disease.

Dr. Camelia Davtyan, clinical professor of general internal medicine and health services research, was quoted Feb. 10 by [Reuters](#) about a study which found that most women who are sexually active when they enter middle age continue to engage sexually as they grow older.

Dr. Neal Halfon, professor of pediatrics, public health and public policy and director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities, was quoted Feb. 9 in a [Toronto Globe and Mail](#) story about a recent symposium on the biology of child and brain development.

Dr. Michael Pfeffer, chief medical informatics officer for UCLA Health System and a hospitalist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was quoted Feb. 4 in Dell's [Tech Page One](#) blog on ways patient data and electronic record-keeping systems are used in hospitals and healthcare organizations.

Dr. Gary Schiller, professor of hematology-oncology and director of bone marrow/stem cell transplantation at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center was quoted Feb. 11 in [USA Today](#) regarding the announcement made by former NBC news anchor Tom Brokaw that he had been diagnosed with multiple myeloma.

Dr. Zaldy Tan, medical director of the UCLA Alzheimer's and Dementia Care program, was quoted in a Feb. 7 [WebMD](#) article on how to cope when a loved one is diagnosed with dementia or Alzheimer's disease.

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