



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Feb. 13-19, 2015**

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Media Covers Bacterial Infection at UCLA

[KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [CBS Radio News](#) and dozens of other media outlets Feb. 18; and [NBC Nightly News](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [KCAL-Channel 9](#), [NPR](#), [Washington Post](#), [USA Today](#), [Reuters](#), [Popular Science](#), [New York Times](#), [Los Angeles Times](#), [Associated Press](#), [CNN](#), [MyNewsLA.com](#) and many others Feb. 19; reported on endoscope-related patient bacterial infections at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Dr. Robert Cherry, chief medical and quality officer of the UCLA Health System; Dr. Zachary Rubin, associate clinical professor of infectious diseases and medical director of clinical epidemiology and infection prevention at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center; Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and CEO of the UCLA Hospital System; and Dr. Benjamin Schwartz, deputy chief of the acute communicable disease control program for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, participated in a Feb. 19 news conference to discuss the issue.

Ahh—Meditation Aids Sleep in Elderly

Dr. Michael Irwin, professor of psychiatry and director of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology at the Semel Institute, and Dr. David Black, a former postgraduate scholar in the Cousins Center, were widely featured in the media regarding their study showing that the practice of mindful meditation — sitting quietly while focusing on breathing and staying in the present— improves sleep quality in older adults. Coverage included Feb. 16 on [Today.com](#), the [Los Angeles Times](#), [HealthDay](#), [Philly.com](#), [KPPC 89.3FM](#), [HealthCanal.com](#), [Nationalmonitor.com](#), and [DiabetesInsider.com](#); Feb. 17 in the [Huffington Post](#), [Examiner.com](#), and [PiercePioneer.com](#); and Feb. 18 in [Reuters](#).

Therapy Dogs Steal Media Spotlight

[KNBC-Channel 4](#), [KTLA-Channel 5](#) and [KABC-Channel 7](#) Feb. 13 reported on a visit by therapy dogs from the People Animal Connection to pediatric and geriatric patients in Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and the UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. The KABC report aired on affiliate stations in Palm Springs, Sacramento, Bakersfield and in Illinois, New York and Pennsylvania.

More Expert Comment on the Measles Outbreak

- Dr. James Cherry, distinguished research professor of pediatrics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and attending physician of pediatric infectious diseases at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted Feb. 15 in a Milwaukee [Journal Sentinel](#) story about data showing that immigrants are not to blame for a resurgence of measles and pertussis. He was also quoted in a Feb. 17 [Christian Post](#) column that also ran on [Townhall.com](#) looking at some of the reasons that have been proposed for the measles outbreak.
- Dr. Matteo Dinolfo, medical director of UCLA Health Community Practices, was featured in the Feb. 19 [The Acorn](#) in a story about a community forum on vaccinations for measles and other infectious diseases.
- Dr. Nina Shapiro, a professor of head and neck surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted in a Feb. 17 [CNN.com](#) article about actor Kristen Bell saying that she wants people around her young children to be vaccinated.
- Dr. Daniel Vigil, health sciences associate clinical professor of family medicine, was quoted in a Feb. 16 [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) story about the challenge that doctors who have never seen a case of the measles face when they have a patient with the disease.

Media Continue Counting Hispanic Physicians

A study led by Dr. Gloria Sanchez, associate clinical professor of family medicine, finding that the rate of Hispanic physicians per 100,000 population has fallen by 22 percent since 1980 even as the Hispanic population has grown by 243 percent, garnered coverage Feb. 13 by [Medical News Today](#), Feb. 15 by [Imperial Valley News](#), and Feb. 17 by the [Albuquerque Journal](#).

The Spectrum of Gender

[Nature](#) reported Feb. 18 on how biologists now think the idea of two sexes is simplistic and that a wider spectrum exists beyond male and female. Dr. Eric Vilain, a professor of human genetics, pediatrics and urology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; and Dr. Arthur Arnold, a distinguished professor of integrative biology and physiology at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and College of Letters and Science, were quoted.

Remember to Eat Your Walnuts

Research led by Dr. Lenore Arab, professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research and of biological chemistry, suggesting that eating a few walnuts a day may help improve memory, concentration and information processing speed, was covered Feb. 15 by [Epoch Times](#).

Fixing Radio DJ's Deadly Aneurysm

[WFMZ-TV](#) (Philadelphia) Feb. 19, [KIMT-TV](#) (Rochester, Minn.) and [KTVA-TV](#) (Anchorage, Alaska) Feb. 16 highlighted a delicate two-part procedure that involved rerouting arteries around a radio DJ's vocal cords in order to help stop a deadly aneurysm. The successful procedures were performed by the team at the UCLA Aortic Center. The patient is now happily back to hosting his weekly show. Dr. William Quinones-Baldrich, professor of vascular surgery and director of the UCLA Aortic Center, was interviewed.

UCLA Experts Discuss Advances in Stroke Care

- HCP Live ([Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)) Feb. 16 featured Dr. Jeffrey Saver discussing four new studies on second generation brain stents that show benefit in treating acute ischemic stroke patients. Saver is director of the UCLA Comprehensive Stroke Center and professor of neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.
- [HCP Live](#) Feb. 16 featured Dr. May Nour discussing the clinical impact of new studies of endovascular therapy showing clinical benefit in treating acute ischemic stroke patients. Nour is a fellow in stroke neurology/interventional neuroradiology.
- HCP Live ([Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)) Feb. 16 featured Dr. David Liebeskind discussing the use of imaging in stroke treatment and how it aids in treatment decision. Liebeskind is a professor of neurology, director of Outpatient Stroke and Neurovascular Programs and director of the Neurovascular Imaging Research Core.

UCLA Research Leads to FDA Fast Track Approval of Breast Cancer Drug

[KABC-Channel 7](#) and [New Castle News](#) Feb. 18 reported on the FDA approval of IBRANCE (palbociclib) a new drug to treat women with advanced breast cancer, signaling a new treatment strategy to arrest tumor growth and extend the time before the cancer worsens. Clinical trial results showed progression-free survival was essentially doubled to 20.2 months for patients who received IBRANCE plus letrozole as compared to 10.2 months for those who received the current standard treatment of letrozole alone. Dr. Dennis Slamon, director of the Revlon/UCLA Women's Cancer Research Program and Clinical/Translational Research at the UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted extensively.

Covering Undocumented Uninsured Complicated by Cost

Dr. Nadereh Pourat, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was featured in a Feb. 11 [California Healthline](#) audio report on a recently introduced California Senate bill that would provide health coverage to the uninsured. The report was also published Feb. 11 in [NewsOK](#), [Ventura County Star](#), and [Lancaster Online](#).

Affordable Care Act Creating New Tax Filing Challenges

Dr. Gerald Kominski, professor of health policy and management and director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed in a Feb. 12 Los Angeles [Daily News](#) article on how new Affordable Care Act rules have created new issues for taxpayers and preparers. The story also ran in the [Contra Costa Times](#) and [San Bernardino Sun](#) Feb. 12, and [Inland Daily](#) Feb. 13.

Local NBC Affiliate Highlights UCLA's Teen and Young Adult Cancer Program

A Feb. 17 [KNBC-Channel 4](#) report on the importance of tailoring cancer programs to better serve the needs of young adults featured the Daltrey-Townshend Teen & Young Adult Cancer Program based at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Dr. Noah Federman, director of the UCLA Pediatric Sarcoma Program, commented in the story, as did a young adult cancer patient under his care.

Geriatrician's Column Delivers Heart-Healthy Message

Dr. Hong-Phuc Tran, staff geriatrician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and assistant clinical professor of medicine, authored a Feb. 13 [Santa Monica Mirror](#) column on heart health in conjunction with "American Heart Month" and "National Wear Red Day."

San Pedro News Pilot Covers Hospital's Prayer-Shawl Project

The San Pedro News Pilot's [blog](#) published a Feb. 8 article about prayer shawls being provided to patients at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, courtesy of two Southland churches. Rev. Diane Williams, a hospital chaplain, was quoted in the article.

Teen Volunteers Honored as KNX Radio Heroes of the Week

Three teens featured in a Jan. 29 [Palisadian Post](#) article on their volunteer work for Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA were chosen by KNX 1070AM as "Heroes" for the week of Feb. 5. The girls, who created an organization called "A Call Away," run errands, babysit and do laundry for families with sick children in the hospital.

LABJ Spotlights Help the Doctor Rock Band

The Los Angeles Business Journal Feb. 16 (subscription only) gave the spotlight to Dr. Jason Roostaeian, assistant professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery, and his indie rock band [Help the Doctor](#). The band started in 2011 when the bandmates were all training together as surgical residents or fellows at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

Growing Diversity in Nursing

An article in the Feb 10 issue of [NurseZone](#) examined the importance of diversity in the nursing workforce. Jan Mentes, associate professor at the UCLA School of Nursing, discussed the school's partnership with Charles Drew University, the Bridges to Doctorate program, to encourage diversity in research and faculty roles.

Media Report on New Gambling App—and Sex

Dr. Timothy Fong, an associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, and director of the Impulse Control Disorders Clinic, was featured in a Feb. 5 [FoxNews.com](#) article about how sex affects your brain. Separately, research by Fong and his colleagues was featured in the Feb. 19 [VegasInc.com](#) about an app that would allow problem gamblers to continue their treatment virtually, in between regular in-person therapy sessions. The app would also help therapists by providing information that could be used to improve their treatment regimens.

Psychiatry Website Highlights Faculty Book

A book written by Dr. Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of UCLA's Late-Life Depression, Stress, and Wellness Research Program, was reviewed in the Feb. 5 [Psychiatryonline.com](#). Titled *Resilience and Aging: Research and Practice*, the book provides a concise history of the research in resilience and the practical application to one who desires to age gracefully.

BRIEFS

Dr. Alina Dorian, adjunct assistant professor of community health sciences at the Fielding School of Public Health, gave a keynote speech during a U.S. Congress-organized event dedicated to the victims of Armenian pogroms in Azerbaijan between 1988 and 1990 and is referenced by [panorama.am](#) Feb. 13.

John DeLeeuw, a 1976 graduate of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured in a Feb. 13 [Visalia Times-Delta](#) article celebrating the 35th anniversary of the Central Valley Christian School where DeLeeuw is retiring as superintendent.

Research published by Dr. Jody Heymann, dean of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited in a Feb. 13 [Counterpunch](#) article about Philadelphia becoming the 17th city in the U.S. to mandate paid sick leave.

Dr. Gerald Kominski, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited in a Feb. 17 [InsuranceNewsNet](#) opinion piece which also ran in the [Ventura County Star](#) on the successes of Covered California, the state's health exchange mandated by the Affordable Care Act.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Liana Apostolova, an associate professor of neurology and member of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research, commented in an Feb. 13 [NBCNews.com](#) article about so-called "superagers," elderly people who have retained all of their cognitive abilities.

Dr. Susan Babey, senior research scientist and co-director of the chronic disease program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was asked for her insight into a new initiative to add healthier ingredients and options to the menus of some Los Angeles taco trucks. The article first ran Feb. 17 in [Kaiser Health News](#) and was republished in the [Daily Beast](#), [Ventura County Star](#), and [NewsOK](#) Feb. 17 and in [The Atlantic](#) Feb. 19.

Dr. Neal Halfon, director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a Feb. 18 [Northwest Indiana Times](#) Web editorial on the importance of teaching young children to be civically and socially engaged.

Dr. Doojin Kim, director, stroke program at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and associate professor of neurology, commented in a Feb. 11 [HealthDay](#) article on two studies examining whether adults who have recently suffered strokes are more likely to be involved in driving accidents.

Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson, an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry in the Semel Institute and director of The Help Group - UCLA Autism Research Alliance, was quoted in the Feb. 11 [Science News](#) about people with autism and the mistaken assumption by many that they enjoy being alone. Also referenced was her 2012 study discussing the results of a 14-week [course](#) that provides people diagnosed with autism concrete rules of social behavior.

Dr. Carlos Lerner, associate clinical professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented in a Feb. 17 [Today.com](#) story on a new study about toddlers and napping.

Dr. Dylan Roby, senior research scientist at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and assistant professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Feb. 11 in a web article on professional patient advocates in the Brand Publishing section of the [Los Angeles Times](#).

Dr. George Rudkin, associate clinical professor and program director, UCLA Division of Plastic Surgery, was quoted in the Feb. 16 Los Angeles Business Journal (subscription only) about the concept of a high-end storefront clinic for injectable cosmetics.

Dr. Karol Watson, professor of medicine in the division of cardiology and director of the UCLA Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Health Program, commented in the February issue of [Cardiology Today](#) for a story on a genetic disorder characterized by high cholesterol levels that is often underdiagnosed.

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