



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT  
For the week of Feb. 18 - 24, 2011**

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### **Mysterious On-air Migraine Attracts Network, Local Headlines**

Numerous news outlets tapped UCLA experts to comment on a TV reporter who appeared to suffer an on-air stroke but actually experienced a complex migraine with aura and facial numbness that affected her speech.

**Dr. Andrew Charles**, professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Headache Research and Treatment Program, shed light on migraines Feb. 17 in the Los Angeles Times; and Feb. 18 on ABC's "Good Morning America;" CBS' "Early Show;" and in radio interviews on KNW-1070AM, KFVB-980AM and the ABC network.

"Serene Branson: Migraine, Not Stroke, Caused On-air Flub"

[http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-504763\\_162-20033346-10391704.html?tag=mncol;lst:7](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-504763_162-20033346-10391704.html?tag=mncol;lst:7)

"Good Morning America: Reporter Serene Branson: Not a Stroke Just a Migraine"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IG7NuH5QTdE>

"CBS Reporter Serene Branson Suffered 'Migraine Aura,' Doctor Says"

<http://articles.latimes.com/2011/feb/17/news/la-heb-branson-post2-02172011>

**Dr. Neil Martin**, chair of neurosurgery, also appeared Feb. 18 on CBS' "Early Show;" on NBC-Channel 4 Extra's "Lifechangers," and in reports by KCBS-Channel 2 and KCAL-Channel 9.

"Serene Branson: I'm "Troubled" by Viral Video"

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2011/02/18/earlyshow/main20033269.shtml?tag=mncol;lst:8>

"Serene Branson Talks about Her Live Medical Emergency"

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2011/02/17/serene-branson-talks-about-her-live-medical-emergency/>

"Serene Branson had 'Complex Migraine,' Her Physician Says"

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/02/17/serene-branson-complex-migraine\\_n\\_824816.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/02/17/serene-branson-complex-migraine_n_824816.html)

"Serene Branson's Doctor Talks to 'Extra' about Her Condition"

[http://extratv.warnerbros.com/2011/02/serene\\_bransons\\_doctor\\_talks\\_to\\_extra\\_about\\_her\\_condition.php](http://extratv.warnerbros.com/2011/02/serene_bransons_doctor_talks_to_extra_about_her_condition.php)

### **Media Outlets Comb Hair Re-growth Data**

KCBS-Channel 2, KNBC-Channel 4, KMEX-Channel 34, CNN Headline News, FOX News, United Press International and Voice of America reported Feb. 17 on a UCLA study in which researchers investigating the effects of stress on mice stumbled upon a possible treatment for stress-induced hair loss. Other coverage appeared Feb. 17 in Fox News Latino, Feb 18 in the Village Voice blog, Feb. 20 on TV Globo (Brazil), Feb. 22 on KPBS-89.5FM (San Diego), and many other national and international news outlets. Million Mulugeta, adjunct professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases, and Yvette Taché, professor-in-residence of digestive diseases, were quoted in the coverage.

"Researchers Stumble across Hair Growth Treatment"

<http://www.voanews.com/english/news/health/Researchers-Stumble-Across-Hair-Growth-Treatment-116415804.html>

"A Treatment for Stress Grows Hair on Mice"

<http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/lifestyle/2011/02/18/treatment-stress-grows-hair-mice/>

"Chemical is Found to Block Hair Loss"

[http://www.upi.com/Science\\_News/2011/02/17/Chemical-is-found-to-block-hair-loss/UPI-53431297994693/](http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2011/02/17/Chemical-is-found-to-block-hair-loss/UPI-53431297994693/)

"Salk Scientists Might Cure Your Bald Spot"

<http://www.kpbs.org/news/2011/feb/22/salk-scientists-might-cure-your-bald-spot/>

### **Local, Entertainment Press Detail New Neuro Rehab Unit**

The Los Angeles Times, L.A. Daily News, Hollywood Reporter and Variety reported Feb. 24, and the San Gabriel Valley Tribune and KPCC-89.3 FM reported Feb. 23, that the UCLA Health System will create and operate a new neurological rehabilitation facility at the Motion Picture and Television Fund's Woodland Hills hospital and nursing home.

"Providence Agrees to Take Over Motion Picture Home"

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/entertainmentnewsbuzz/2011/02/providence-agrees-to-take-over-motion-picture-home.html>

“Motion Picture and Television Fund Decides to Keep Open Long-term Care Facility”  
<http://www.scp.org/news/2011/02/23/motion-picture-and-television-fund-decides-keep-op/>  
“Motion Picture & Television Fund Gets New Life”  
[http://www.dailynews.com/health/ci\\_17466376](http://www.dailynews.com/health/ci_17466376)

### **The Economist Illuminates Loneliness**

Steven Cole, associate professor of hematology–oncology and member of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Feb. 24 Economist article about his study finding that chronically lonely people may be at higher risk for certain types of disease because their feelings of social isolation trigger the activity of pro-inflammatory immune cells.  
“The Reason Loneliness Could be Bad for Your Health”  
[http://www.economist.com/node/18226813?story\\_id=18226813&fsrc=rss](http://www.economist.com/node/18226813?story_id=18226813&fsrc=rss)

### **NPR Explains How Seniors Can Pump Iron to Preserve Muscle**

Dr. David Heber, professor of medicine and director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, was interviewed Feb. 21 on National Public Radio’s “Morning Edition” about research showing that lifting weights can help seniors avoid age-related muscle loss.  
“Seniors Can Still Bulk Up On Muscle by Pressing Iron”  
<http://www.npr.org/2011/02/21/133776800/seniors-can-still-bulk-up-on-muscle-by-pressing-iron>

### **L.A. Times Looks at Composers’ Mental Health**

Dr. Peter Whybrow, director of the Semel Institute, executive chair of psychiatry and physician-in-chief of the Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital, was featured Feb. 20 by the Los Angeles Times about an upcoming Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra series exploring music and the mind. Whybrow commented on creativity and the mood disorders of successful composers and politicians.  
“Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra to Explore the Musical Mind”  
<http://www.latimes.com/la-ca-music-and-the-mind-20110220,0,7079946.story>

### **Daily News, KABC-7 Cover AIDS Dance Fundraiser**

KABC-Channel 7 reported Feb. 19, the L.A. Daily News reported Feb. 20 and the Huffington Post reported Feb. 21 on UCLA’s 10th annual student dance marathon, which raised more than \$410,500 for the UCLA AIDS Institute and other pediatric AIDS organizations.  
“26-hr Dance Marathon Held at UCLA for Cause”  
<http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/bizarre&id=7969027>  
“UCLA Students Take Part in Dance Marathon”  
[http://www.dailynews.com/ci\\_17439029](http://www.dailynews.com/ci_17439029)  
“UCLA Hosts 26-Hour Dance-a-Thon to Help in Fight against Pediatric HIV/AIDS”  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/02/21/ucla-hosts-26hour-danceat\\_n\\_826210.html#](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/02/21/ucla-hosts-26hour-danceat_n_826210.html#)

### **Finnish TV Spotlights New Transport for Donor Hearts**

MTV3’s “45 Minutes” News (Finland) aired a Feb. 23 story on the experimental “beating heart box” being tested at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. The technology keeps a donor heart warm and beating during transport. The study’s principal investigator Dr. Abbas Ardehali, surgical director of the heart and lung transplantation program, and Dr. Anne Hickey, interim medical director of the heart transplant program, were interviewed.  
“Sydänlaatikko Apuna Elinsiirroissa”  
<http://www.mtv3.fi/uutiset/45min/jaksot.shtml?1277466>

### **UCLA Named among Nation’s Best Hospitals**

The Feb. 23 edition of Becker’s Hospital Review named Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center to its list of America’s 50 top hospitals.  
“America’s 50 Best Hospitals”  
<http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/best-hospitals-in-america/50-best-hospitals-in-america.html#>

### **Chronicle of Higher Ed Focuses on Scientists’ Rights**

The Feb. 20 Chronicle of Higher Education highlighted experiences by UCLA scientists who have been targeted by anti-animal research extremists' harassment and violent attacks. David Jentsch, professor of psychiatry; Dario Ringach, professor of neurobiology; Marie-Francoise Chesselet, Charles H. Markham Professor of Neurology and chair of neurobiology; and Kevin Reed, vice chancellor for legal affairs, were quoted.

"One Animal Researcher Refuses to Hide"

<http://chronicle.com/article/The-Animal-Researcher-Will-Not/126442/#>

### **MedPage Today Examines Metal-on-Metal Hip Implants**

MedPage Today ran a Feb. 20 article highlighting research by Dr. Edward Ebramzadeh, adjunct associate professor of orthopaedic surgery, finding significant problems with metal-on-metal (MoM) hip implants. He presented his findings at the annual American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons meeting "AAOS: Little Love for MoM in Studies"

<http://www.medpagetoday.com/MeetingCoverage/AAOS/24973>

### **KABC-7, Examiner Cover Local Debut of National Children's Study**

KABC-Channel 7 and The Examiner reported Feb. 22 on a nationwide study led by Dr. Neal Halfon, professor of pediatrics, health services and public policy and director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities. The study will follow thousands of children from birth to age 21 in order to determine how genetics and environmental factors affect their health and development. Halfon was quoted.

"Largest Children's Study in History under Way"

[http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health/your\\_health&id=7974135](http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health/your_health&id=7974135)

"UCLA Seeking Women to Participate in the National Children's Study"

<http://www.examiner.com/women-s-health-in-los-angeles/ucla-seeking-women-to-participate-the-national-children-s-study>

### **San Diego ABC-Affiliate Showcases Operation Mend**

KGTV-Channel 10 (San Diego) aired a Feb. 21 story on UCLA's Operation Mend program, which provides reconstructive surgery to wounded military injured in Iraq and Afghanistan. The segment profiled a San Diego-based soldier who has undergone several surgeries with Dr. Timothy Miller, the program's surgical director.

"Wounded Soldier Says Surgeries Changed Life"

<http://www.10news.com/news/26946356/detail.html>

### **Ventura Paper Spotlights Blood Donors' Life-saving Gifts**

The Ventura County Star published a Feb. 20 profile of a son who sacrificed his independence to care for his mother, a UCLA liver transplant patient whose life was sustained by the platelet donations of 18 donors from the UCLA Blood & Platelet Center. Dr. Johnny C. Hong, her surgeon, was quoted, as were blood donors UCPD detective Selby Arsena and undergraduate student Minerva Esquivel.

"Newbury Park Woman Meets 18 Blood Donors who Saved Her Life"

<http://www.vcstar.com/news/2011/feb/20/newbury-park-liver-recipient-meets-18-strangers/#ixzz1Ei43bnkd>

### **Geneticist Educates Jewish Journal about Tay-Sachs**

The Feb. 23 Jewish Journal interviewed Dr. Stephen Cederbaum, professor emeritus of psychiatry, pediatrics and human genetics and former chief of pediatric genetics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, about the origins and prevention of a fatal genetic disease called Tay-Sachs.

"Tay-Sachs Disease: An Interview with Stephen Cederbaum, M.D."

[http://www.jewishjournal.com/jewish\\_diseases/item/tay-sachs\\_disease\\_an\\_interview\\_with\\_stephen\\_cederbaum\\_md\\_20110223/](http://www.jewishjournal.com/jewish_diseases/item/tay-sachs_disease_an_interview_with_stephen_cederbaum_md_20110223/)

### **KFWB Dials Up Family Doctor to Talk Health**

Dr. David Baron, family physician at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, appeared Feb. 15 on KFWB AM980's "Money 101" show to talk about various health topics.

### **Lompoc Record Features Santa Maria Clinical Trial**

California's Lompoc Record reported Feb. 18 about the importance of clinical trials for cancer research, citing the experiences of a breast cancer patient who participated in a UCLA study. Alison Fernandez, a clinical nurse at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and research coordinator for the UCLA Translational Oncology Research International Group, was quoted.

"Marian Clinical Trials Provide Hope"

[http://www.lompocrecord.com/news/local/article\\_cf414fde-3bf3-11e0-8dec-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.lompocrecord.com/news/local/article_cf414fde-3bf3-11e0-8dec-001cc4c002e0.html)

### **Revlon/UCLA Breast Center Featured by the Patch**

Westwood-Century City Patch, an AOL-affiliated news website, ran a Feb. 22 story on the Revlon/UCLA Breast Center at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

"Revlon/UCLA Breast Center Leads in Care"

<http://centurycity.patch.com/articles/revlonucla-breast-center-leads-in-breast-care>

### **Daily Breeze Cites State Health Survey**

David Grant, director of the California Health Interview Survey conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health, was featured Feb. 18 by the Daily Breeze about a comprehensive biennial study of the health and well-being of the state's residents.

"Survey: Chronic Health Conditions Worsening in South Bay, Nation"

[http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/ci\\_17416215?source=rss](http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/ci_17416215?source=rss)

### **California Daily Reports on Possible Health Coverage Gains**

Shana Alex Lavarreda, director of health insurance studies at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health, was featured Feb. 22 by the Stockton Record on a center study showing that up to two-thirds of California's 7 million uninsured will become eligible for health insurance coverage when reform is implemented in 2014.

"Reform to Rescue County's Uninsured"

[http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110222/A\\_NEWS/102220307/-1/A\\_LIFE](http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110222/A_NEWS/102220307/-1/A_LIFE)

## **BRIEFS**

The Philadelphia Business Journal ran a Feb.18 brief on a study by Dr. Dinesh Chhetri, associate professor of head and neck surgery. He published the results of a five-patient pilot study evaluating the safety and effectiveness of autologous fibroblasts to treat vocal fold scarring.

"Lab Notes: Check Out What's Happening"

<http://www.bizjournals.com/philadelphia/blog/john-george/2011/02/lab-notes-check-out-whats-happening.html?s=print>

Dr. Denise Sur's election as the first female chief of staff in Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital's 85-year history was reported Feb. 12 in the Santa Monica Daily Press. Dr. Philip Levin, medical director of surgical services at the hospital, and Dr. Roger Lee, director of its Hospitalist program, were referenced as vice-chief of staff and secretary-treasurer.

"Sur Becomes First Female Chief at Santa Monica-UCLA"

<http://www.smdp.com/Articles-c-2011-02-11-71305.113116-Community-briefs-Students-win-Surf-Bowl-Sur-becomes-first-female-chief-at-Santa-MonicaUCLA.html>

A Feb. 22 Oakland Tribune about the lack of funding for 2000's Proposition 36, which gives certain drug offenders a treatment-based alternative to prison, cited a study of the mandate's effects by UCLA's Integrated Substance Abuse Programs, part of the Semel Institute.

"Money is Gone, but Proposition 36's Drug-Treatment Mandate Remains"

[http://www.contracostatimes.com/politics-government/ci\\_17438274?source=rss&nclick\\_check=1](http://www.contracostatimes.com/politics-government/ci_17438274?source=rss&nclick_check=1)

## **QUOTABLES**

Dr. David Baron, family physician at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, commented Feb. 15 on KNX AM1070 about a study linking insufficient sleep to a higher risk of colon cancer.

Dr. James Dunn, chief of pediatric surgery at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented Feb. 23 in the New Scientist on choosing a medical career in pediatrics.

"The Kids are Alright"

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn20161-the-kids-are-alright.html?DCMP=OTC-rss&nsref=careers>

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented Feb. 23 in HealthDay News about a study on daily activities that may increase risk of heart attack.

"Coffee, Sex, Smog Can All Trigger Heart Attack, Study Finds"

<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=650225>

Dr. John Glaspy, professor of hematology-oncology and director of the women's cancers program area at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted Feb. 21 in a Los Angeles Times article about the efficacy of removing lymph nodes in breast cancer patients.

"In Breast Cancer Treatment, Less Underarm Lymph-node Removal May be Better"

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-breast-cancer-lymph-nodes-20110221,0,6447864.story>

David Jentsch, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted Feb. 22 in Nature about being a target of harassment and threats by anti-animal research activists.

"Animal Research: The Radical"

<http://www.nature.com/news/2011/110223/full/470454a.html>

Dr. Henry Kawamoto, clinical professor of plastic surgery, was quoted Feb. 22 by ABCNews.com about how surgeons respond to patients who seek excessive plastic surgery procedures.

"Heidi Montag: A Case of 'Plastic Surgery Addiction'?"

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/MindMoodNews/heidi-montag-denies-plastic-surgery-addiction-husband-shes/story?id=10586196&page=3>

Dr. Lisa Nicholas, assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, commented in a Feb. 20 Los Angeles Times article about a study questioning the need for women to have routine pelvic exams.

"Doctors Question Need for Yearly Pelvic Exams"

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-pelvic-exam-20110220,0,5998063.story>

Steven Nusinowitz, associate professor of ophthalmology at the Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA, was quoted Feb. 20 in Britain's Independent about the potential health hazards of 3-D video games.

"Health Warning for Children over New 3D Games Console"

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/health-news/health-warning-for-children-over-new-3d-games-console-2219975.html>

Dr. David Reuben, chief of geriatrics, was quoted Feb. 19 in a California Watch article about malnutrition among seniors on Medicare in Shasta County.

"Hospital Chain, Already Under Scrutiny, Reports High Malnutrition Rates"

<http://californiawatch.org/health-and-welfare/hospital-chain-already-under-scrutiny-reports-high-malnutrition-rates-8786>

Dr. Jeffrey Saver, professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Stroke Center, commented Feb. 21 in HealthDay News about determining when stroke patients are well enough to drive again. He also commented in a Feb. 23 Medscape report about a Danish study that looked at the impact of elevated triglyceride levels on stroke risk.

"Simple Tests Can Tell Who Can Drive after Stroke: Study"

<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/heart/articles/2011/02/21/simple-tests-can-tell-who-can-drive-after-stroke-study>



“Higher Triglyceride Levels Linked to Increased Risk for Stroke”

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/737870>

Dr. Steven Schwartz, Ahmanson Professor of Ophthalmology and chief of the retina division at the Jules Stein Eye Institute, commented Feb. 21 in a Los Angeles Times column evaluating the accuracy of a TV movie about a child suffering from an eye disease that causes vision loss.

“Hallmark's 'Accidentally in Love' has Fuzzy Grasp of Eye Disease Facts”

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-unreal-accidentally-20110221,0,20758.column>

Dr. Ava Shamban, assistant clinical professor of dermatology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Feb. 22 in a StyleList column offering tips on skin care.

“Fall in Love with Your Skin”

<http://www.stylelist.com/2011/02/22/skin-care-tips/>

Dr. Myles Spar, associate physician at the Venice Family Clinic, and Dr. Ian Yip, associate clinical professor of medicine, commented Feb. 23 in a Chicago Tribune article about detoxification cleansing.

“Deep Cleaning”

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/health/sc-health-0223-safe-cleanse-fast-20110223,0,300010.story>

Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the UCLA Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, was quoted Feb. 22 by WebMD about a study finding that cell phone use appears to boost the metabolism of brain glucose.

“Cell Phones Affect Brain, but Does It Matter?”

<http://www.webmd.com/brain/news/20110222/cell-phones-affect-brain-but-does-it-matter>

Cristina Tirado, adjunct assistant professor of community health sciences at the School of Public Health, was quoted Feb. 22 by Agence France-Presse about the potential of climate change to create millions of "environmental refugees" over the next decade.

“50 Million Environmental Refugees' by 2020, Experts Say”

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20110222/ts\\_alt\\_afp/scienceuspopulationfoodclimateresponse\\_20110222005112](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20110222/ts_alt_afp/scienceuspopulationfoodclimateresponse_20110222005112)

Dr. Antronette Yancey, professor of health services at the School of Public Health and co-director of the UCLA–Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Equity, was quoted Feb. 23 by Associated Press about research suggesting that owning a dog may help teens get more exercise.

“Walking the Dog May Help Teens Get More Exercise”

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2011/02/23/lifestyle/l105313S39.DTL>

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