



## UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT For the week of Feb. 20 - 26, 2009

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### **AP, Papers Report on Tough Times for Calif. Seniors**

A report by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health showing that more than half a million California seniors who live alone lack sufficient income to meet the basic costs of living was cited Feb. 23 by the San Francisco Chronicle and San Jose Mercury News, and Feb. 24 by the Associated Press, Los Angeles Daily Breeze, Long Beach Press-Telegram, Salinas Californian and Sacramento Bee. Center director and lead author Steven Wallace commented in the Press-Telegram and Daily Breeze.

"Ex-Senior Center Manager Understands the Crisis"

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/02/23/MNL51635J8.DTL&feed=rss.news>

"Almost Half of California Seniors Struggle to Survive"

[http://www.mercurynews.com/ci\\_11768950?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_11768950?nclick_check=1)

“Study: Many Calif. Seniors Can't Make Ends Meet”

<http://www.fresnobee.com/384/story/1220890.html>

### **NPR Scopes Out 10-Minute Workouts for Good Health**

Dr. Antronette Yancey, a professor of Health Services in the School of Public Health, was featured in a Feb. 26 National Public Radio segment on her promotion of moderate exercise two or three times a day for health benefits. Yancey also participated in a live Web chat after the segment.

“Expert: 10-Minute Workouts Can Have Big Payoff”

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=101151713>

“Web Chat: Can 10 Minutes Change Your Life?”

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=101158420>

### **New Scientist Highlights Gene Therapy for HIV**

New Scientist (U.K.) reported Feb. 18 on a trial led by Dr. Ronald Mitsuyasu, professor of medicine and director of UCLA's Center for Clinical AIDS Research and Education, finding that gene therapy holds potential as a safe and effective treatment for HIV. The study was also covered Feb. 24 in HIV and Hepatitis, Femmes et Sida, and other outlets.

“Gene Therapy Promises One-shot Treatment for HIV”

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20126964.400-gene-therapy-promises-oneshot-treatment-for-hiv.html?page=1>

“Gene Therapy Shows Promise in Phase 2 Study of HIV Patients”

[http://www.hivandhepatitis.com/recent/2009/022409\\_a.html](http://www.hivandhepatitis.com/recent/2009/022409_a.html)

“La Thérapie Génique, un Nouvel Espoir Pour le Traitement de L'infection à VIH/Sida”

<http://femmesida.veille.inist.fr/spip.php?article907>

### **Discovery Channel Examines Household Chemicals Linked to Infertility**

Chunyuanyuan Fei, a researcher at the School of Public Health, was quoted in a Feb. 24 Discovery Channel online report on his study finding that perfluorinated chemicals, or PFCs, may be linked to infertility in women.

“Household Chemicals Linked to Infertility”

<http://dsc.discovery.com/news/2009/02/24/chemicals-infertility.html>

### **U.K. Papers Note Tea, Coffee May Cut Stroke Risk**

Findings from a study led by Lenore Arab, professor of biological chemistry, health services research and general internal medicine, finding that drinking black or green tea reduces the risk of stroke; and research by Dr. David Liebeskind, associate neurology director at the UCLA Stroke Center, linking coffee with a similar effect, were reported Feb. 25 by The (London) Telegraph and Feb. 24 by the Daily Mail (U.K.), Web editions of KCRA-TV (CA) and WJXT (Fla.).

“Heavy Tea Drinkers Have Lower Stroke Risk”

<http://www.kcra.com/health/18782458/detail.html>

### **KNBC Explains How to Beat the Economic Blues**

Dr. Ian Cook, Miller Family Professor of Psychiatry at the Geffen School of Medicine and director of the Depression Research Program at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Feb. 19 KNBC-Channel 4 report about joblessness and avoiding depression in hard economic times.

“How to Beat the Jobless Blues”

<http://www.nbclosangeles.com/health/resources/How-to-Beat-the-Jobless-Blues.html>

### **KABC Examines New Alzheimer's Drug**

Joshua Grill, a researcher at the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research at UCLA, appeared in a Feb.23 KABC-Channel 7 report about a clinical trial of a promising new drug that may slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease.

“Hopeful Woman Joins Alzheimer's Study”

<http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health&id=6674434>

### **S.F. Examiner Offers Stress-busting Tips**

Dr. Judith Orloff, an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Feb. 23 San Francisco Examiner article on five ways one can reduce stress during stressful economic times.

"Five Ways Employees can Transform Workplace Fear into Courage"

<http://www.examiner.com/x-2452-Minneapolis-Workplace-Examiner~y2009m2d23-Five-ways-employees-can-transform-workplace-fear-into-courage>

### **Low Circumcision Rates' Link to HIV Draws Headlines**

The Salt Lake Tribune reported Feb. 21 on a study led by Arleen Leibowitz, professor of public policy and a researcher with the UCLA AIDS Institute and UCLA Center for HIV Identification, Prevention and Treatment Services. She found that hospitals in states where Medicaid does not pay for routine male circumcision are half as likely to perform the procedure, potentially increasing the risk of HIV infection among lower-income children later in life. POZ Magazine and the Scripps Howard News Service also reported the findings Feb. 24 and Feb. 25, respectively.

"Does Medicaid Refusal to Cover Circumcision put Utah Boys at Risk?"

[http://www.sltrib.com/ci\\_11757037](http://www.sltrib.com/ci_11757037)

"Study: Medicaid's Refusal to Cover Male Circumcision Increases STI Risk"

[http://www.poz.com/articles/medicaid\\_circumcision\\_hiv\\_1\\_16166.shtml](http://www.poz.com/articles/medicaid_circumcision_hiv_1_16166.shtml)

"Utah Circumcision Ruling May Put Boys at Risk for Disease"

<http://www.scrippsnews.com/node/41214>

### **Stem Cell Research Garner International Coverage**

Research by William Lowry, a Broad Stem Cell Research Center scientist and assistant professor of molecular, cell and developmental biology, was featured Feb. 25 by Reuters, El Universal (Venezuela), Rzeczpospolita (Poland) and the Post Chronicle. The Reuters story also appeared on MSNBC. The study was published in the early online edition of Stem Cells.

"Researchers Make Nerve Cells from New 'Stem' Cells"

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/scienceNewsMolt/idUKTRE51N6WF20090224>

"Científicos Desarrollan Células Nerviosas a Partir de Cutáneas"

[http://internacional.eluniversal.com/2009/02/25/cyt\\_ava\\_cientificos-desarroll\\_25A2235585.shtml](http://internacional.eluniversal.com/2009/02/25/cyt_ava_cientificos-desarroll_25A2235585.shtml)

"UCLA Team Creates Functional Neurons from Adult Somatic Cells"

<http://www.examiner.com/x-1242-Science-News-Examiner~y2009m2d25-UCLA-team-creates-functional-neurons-from-adult-somatic-cells>

### **KTLA Spotlights Heart-transplant Program Milestone**

KTLA-Channel 5 aired a Feb. 22 profile of two UCLA Medical Center heart-transplant recipients—Kelly Perkins and Bill Sears—and their hope that a new "action figure" doll will inspire other patients to realize they can overcome obstacles and live full lives. Sears volunteers full-time at the hospital providing encouragement to heart-transplant patients. He was so inspired by Perkins' mountain-climbing triumphs that he created the first "heart-transplant action figure" named the Kelly Perkins Doll. UCLA's Heart Transplant Program celebrates 25 years of service this year.

"Heart Transplant Recipients"

<http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=102008&key=7dazbXqzWjX0MLUODeRgJ2crCZ9xSleC&email=rmooster@mednet.ucla.edu>

### **UPI Reports on Routine HIV Testing**

United Press International reported Feb. 19 on a study led by Dr. Anish Mahajan, a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar in the division of health services research and general internal medicine. He found that state laws pose no barriers to a 2006 Centers for Disease Control recommendation that physicians offer opt-out exams for HIV with other routine tests at the doctor's office.

"Most State Laws Not Barrier to HIV Test"

[http://www.upi.com/Health\\_News/2009/02/19/Most\\_state\\_laws\\_not\\_barriers\\_to\\_HIV\\_test/UPI-32431235105119/](http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2009/02/19/Most_state_laws_not_barriers_to_HIV_test/UPI-32431235105119/)

### **KPCC Questions Men and Medicine**

KPCC's Patt Morrison explored what causes some men to refrain from talking about their health, get a regular check up, or even see the doctor when they're really sick. Guests in the Feb. 25 segment included Dr. Roy Young, professor of medicine, who examined how the sexes deal with their health. "Men and Medicine"

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/pattmorrison/>

### **Newspaper Chain Runs Series on Mexicans in the Southwest**

EGP News, a U.S. chain of bilingual newspapers, published an online series of columns written by David Hayes-Bautista, director of the Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, exploring the history of Mexicans in the Southwest. The first three of four parts ran Feb. 12, Feb. 19 and Feb. 26, respectively.

"Southwest's Mexican Roots: The Untold Stories Part I"

<http://egpnews.com/?p=6788>

"Southwest's Mexican Roots: The Untold Stories Part II"

<http://egpnews.com/?p=7032>

"Southwest's Mexican Roots: The Untold Stories, Part III"

<http://egpnews.com/?p=7202>

### **BRIEFS**

The February issue of Natural Health Magazine cited a UCLA study finding that a chemical in broccoli switches on immune cells' enzymes and antioxidant genes to combat damage from free radicals.

### **QUOTABLES**

Dr. David Baron, chief of staff at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, commented in a Feb. 25 report on KNX-AM1070 about clinical practice guidelines and evidence-based medicine.

Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, professor of nephrology and medical director of the kidney and pancreas transplantation program, was quoted Feb. 20 in a Washington Post article about Washington, D.C., Councilman Marion Barry receiving a kidney transplant.

"Barry Is Slated to Undergo Kidney Transplant Surgery"

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/02/19/AR2009021901577\\_pf.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/02/19/AR2009021901577_pf.html)

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, addressed heart risk and alcohol consumption Feb. 24 on CNN.com. The online site "Gant Daily," featuring news from Pennsylvania, also cited Fonarow in a Feb. 20 story about a local hospital receiving a cardiac care award. "Women's Cancer Risk May Increase with Just a Few Drinks"

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/HEALTH/02/24/women.cancer.drinking/>

"DRMC One of 93 Hospitals to Receive Silver Award"

<http://www.gantdaily.com/news/71/ARTICLE/44256/2009-02-20.html>

Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of cancer prevention and control research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, commented Feb. 24 in the Reno Gazette-Journal about Nevada's participation in a national pilot program to provide care to cancer survivors after treatment.

"Nevada Part of Pilot Program to Coordinate Care for Cancer Survivors"

<http://rjg.com/article/20090224/LIV/902240307/1089>

Dr. John Glaspy, director of the Women's Cancers Program Area at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted in the March issue of the Atlantic about the cost of cancer drugs, including Herceptin.

"My Drug Problem"

<http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200903/postrel-drugs>

David Hovda, professor of neurosurgery and director of the Brain Injury Research Center, was quoted in the Feb. 25 Sacramento Bee about the rise in concussions among professional basketball players.

"NBA Sees Sudden, Scary Increase in Concussions"

<http://www.sacbee.com/kings/story/1651024.html>

Dr. Stephen Kee, associate professor of radiological sciences, commented Feb. 20 in a Bloomberg News report on a new device that uses pulses of electricity to kill tumors cell-by-cell without harming nearby blood vessels and nerves. UCLA is one of 20 U.S. hospitals testing the technology.

"AngoDynamics Cancer-Killer is 'Exciting,' Doctors Say"

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601124&sid=aV5yA9F0C3bA&refer=home>

Dr. Aurelia Nattiv, director of the Osteoporosis Center at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted about bone loss in cyclists in The Buffalo News on Feb. 23 and Monterey County Herald on Feb. 26. The story originally appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

"Mix Up Cycling With Cross-Training, Too"

<http://www.buffalonews.com/185/story/587558.html>

"Weak and Brittle Bones a Source of Cyclist Moans"

[http://www.montereyherald.com/health/ci\\_11789580](http://www.montereyherald.com/health/ci_11789580)

Dr. Judith Orloff, an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in the Feb. 23 edition of Newsweek magazine about how stress can be good for you.

"Who Says Stress is Bad for You?"

<http://www.newsweek.com/id/184154>

Dr. Mousa Shamonki, assistant clinical professor of obstetrics/gynecology and director of in vitro fertilization, was quoted Feb. 20 by the Associated Press about controversy over how many embryos should be implanted during in vitro fertilization.

"AP IMPACT: Most Fertility Clinics Break the Rules"

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jPuz0wFaV98s\\_ge2wqkLqcLUC7QD96FHN201](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jPuz0wFaV98s_ge2wqkLqcLUC7QD96FHN201)

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, commented Feb. 25 in Chicago Tribune and CBS News online stories about how online social networking affects brain function. He also discussed the impact of new technologies on the brain in a Feb. 24 "Live Science" Web story.

"Is Facebook Giving Us Baby Brains? British Scientist Says Yes"

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/features/chi-talk-brainfeb25,0,2615704.story>

"Are Twitter, Facebook, Health Hazards?"

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/02/25/earlyshow/health/main4827591.shtml>

"Is the Internet Warping Our Brains?"

<http://www.livescience.com/culture/090224-internet-brain.html>

Frederick Zimmerman, a visiting associate professor of health services at the School of Public Health, was quoted Feb. 25 in a HealthDay News article about a study suggesting that fifth-graders who work the most at jobs like baby-sitting and delivering newspapers may be more prone to behavioral problems.

"Work May Not Be Best for Young Kids"

<http://www.forbes.com/feeds/hscout/2009/02/25/hscout624426.html>

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