



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT**  
**For the week of Feb. 20-26, 2015**

Note: Website links may expire without notice. Some sites require password registration. If you cannot access a story or would like to obtain a copy, please call 310.794.0777.

---

**Dr. John Mazziotta Appointed to New UCLA Leadership Positions, Dr. David Feinberg Appointed New Geisinger CEO**

**Coverage Continues on Medical Devices and Bacterial Infections**

**Media Continue Counting Hispanic Physicians**

**Wall Street Journal Says it's Hard for Kids to Make Friends**

**KNBC Explores Patient's Triumph over Brain Cancer**

**Media Shine Light on Pro Golfer Promoting Organ Donation**

**Vox Examines Acne Research**

**UCLA Affiliates with Doheny Eye Institute**

**Down Syndrome Ages the Brain**

**New Personalized Approach to Cancer Treatment**

**Better Decision Making When Treating Prostate Cancer**

**UCLA Research Led to FDA Approval of Breast Cancer Drug**

**Sending Mice into Space to Study Bone Loss**

**Los Angeles Daily News, Sister Paper Feature UCLA "Big Data" Center**

**KPCC Taps Allergy Expert**

**The Vaccination Battle**

**Networks Needed for Early Childhood Development**

**Protection against Measles**

**Midnight Snacking Can Affect Health, Memory, and Sleep, Reports Smithsonian Magazine**

**Spotlight on New Gambling App**

**Examiner.com Explains Huntington's Disease Discovery**

**Forever Young: Meditation Preserves Brain Tissue**

## **Health Web Site Addresses Income Inequality and Poor Health**

### **BBC Tackles Lack of Sleep**

### **Conejo Valley Paper Covers Community Forum**

### **Continued Coverage for Teen and Young Adult Cancer Program**

### **California Uninsured Rate Dropping Under Obamacare**

### **Many Families Could See Higher 2015 Tax Bills Due to Affordable Care Act Subsidized Coverage**

### **Public Health Adjunct to Take Over Animal Care Center**

## **BRIEFS**

## **QUOTABLES**

---

### **Dr. John Mazziotta Appointed to New UCLA Leadership Positions, Dr. David Feinberg Appointed New Geisinger CEO**

[Modern Healthcare](#), [Sunbury Daily](#), and [KNBC-Channel 4](#) Feb. 23, and the [Los Angeles Times](#) Feb. 24 reported that Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System, CEO of the UCLA Hospital System and associate vice chancellor of UCLA Health Sciences, will become the new president and CEO of the Danville, Pa.-based [Geisinger Health System](#) on May 1. Several news outlets also noted that Dr. John Mazziotta, an associate vice chancellor for health sciences at UCLA, [will take on](#) the role of vice chancellor for health sciences, CEO of the UCLA Health System and serve as dean of the David Geffen School of Medicine, and that Dr. A. Eugene Washington, current vice chancellor and dean of the medical school, will be leaving to become the chief executive of the Duke University Health System.

### **Coverage Continues on Medical Devices and Bacterial Infections**

The [New York Times](#) published an opinion piece Feb. 23 focusing on endoscope-related patient bacterial infections at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Coverage continued in numerous media outlets including [CNN](#) Feb. 26, the [Los Angeles Times](#), [CBS News](#) and [City News Service](#) Feb. 23 and [NPR](#) Feb. 19.

### **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, was covered Feb. 19 by the [Los Angeles Times](#) and Feb. 20 by [KCBS 740AM](#) (San Francisco). Sanchez and Dr. David Hayes-Bautista, director of the UCLA Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, were quoted.

### **Wall Street Journal Says it's Hard for Kids to Make Friends**

Dr. Fred Frankel, professor of psychiatry and founder of the Parent Training and Children's Friendship Programs at the Semel Institute, and Cynthia Whitham, director of the program, were featured in the Feb. 17 [Wall Street Journal](#) about the obstacles children face today in making and keeping a best friend. The article also cited the UCLA Friendship Program, which helps children who lag their peers in social skills, as well as children with ADHD, autism and other disorders.

### **KNBC Explores Patient's Triumph over Brain Cancer**

[KNBC-Channel 4](#) aired a Feb. 24 segment on a cancer patient who has lived 15 years past some doctors' predictions due to the meticulous removal of her aggressive brain tumor by Dr. Neil Martin, chair of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and an innovative vaccine created by Dr. Linda Liau, vice chair of neurosurgery, that helps her immune system fight off the cancer.

### **Media Shine Light on Pro Golfer Promoting Organ Donation**

The [Los Angeles Times](#) and [ASAP Sports](#) on Feb. 17, the [Associated Press](#) on Feb. 18 and [KABC Channel 7](#) on Feb. 19 cited UCLA in stories about the efforts of two-time heart transplant patient and professional golfer Erik Compton's efforts to raise awareness about organ donation. The Associated Press story appeared in more than 100 media outlets nationwide. Compton and others filmed a public service announcement about organ donation at UCLA on Feb. 16. The PSA featured UCLA transplant patients who also are competitive athletes.

### **Vox Examines Acne Research**

Huiying Li, an assistant professor of molecular and medical pharmacology and member of the Crump Institute of Molecular Imaging, was interviewed in a Feb. 15 [Vox.com](#) article about her research linking only certain strains of acne bacteria with pimples.

### **UCLA Affiliates with Doheny Eye Institute**

A new affiliation by the Stein Eye Institute at UCLA and the Doheny Eye Institute, formerly of USC, that will almost double the UCLA faculty and expand patients' access to the region's top vision specialists, was covered Feb. 20 by [Cataract & Refractive Surgery Today](#); Feb. 17 by the [Review of Optometry and Optometric Physician](#); Feb. 13 by the [Beverly Hills Courier](#); and Feb. 9 by [EyeWire Today](#) and [My Science](#). Director Dr. Bartly Mondino, chair of ophthalmology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

### **Down Syndrome Ages the Brain**

A UCLA study finding that Down syndrome ages the brain 11 years faster was reported Feb. 26 by [Disability Scoop](#), and Feb. 19 by [MedicalXpress](#), [Health Canal](#) and the [Health Medicine Network](#). Dr. Steve Horvath, a professor of human genetics and biostatistics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, led the research.

### **New Personalized Approach to Cancer Treatment**

[News-Medical](#) Feb. 25 and [Controlled Environments](#) Feb. 26 reported on a new powerful tool called Feedback System Control.II, or FSC.II, to address drug resistance and dosing challenges in cancer patients. Dr. Dean Ho, a professor of oral biology and medicine at the UCLA School of Dentistry, and Dr. Chih-Ming Ho, a professor of mechanical engineering at the UCLA Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science, both members of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Nanotechnology Program Area, were quoted extensively.

### **Better Decision Making When Treating Prostate Cancer**

[News-Medical](#) Feb. 20, [WWSB-TV](#) (Sarasota, Fla.) Feb. 23 and [Radiation Therapy News](#) Feb. 26 reported on new findings by UCLA researchers that indicate radiation therapy is the most common treatment for men with prostate cancer regardless of the aggressiveness of the tumor, the risk to the patient or the patient's overall prognosis. This study lays the groundwork for doctors to make more informed decisions about treatment options and provide better information for people with the disease. Dr. Karim Chamie, assistant professor of urology and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, led the study and was quoted extensively.

### **UCLA Research Led to FDA Approval of Breast Cancer Drug**

[OncLive](#) Feb. 19 and [AJMC](#) Feb. 16 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 UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted extensively.

### **Sending Mice into Space to Study Bone Loss**

[NASA](#) Feb. 17 and [Space Daily](#) Feb. 19 reported on a new mission that will allow astronauts and UCLA researchers to analyze rodents to focus on the ability to direct stem cells to induce bone formation and prevent bone degeneration in humans. Prolonged space flights induce extreme changes in bone and organ systems that cannot be replicated on Earth. Dr. Chia Soo, UCLA professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery and orthopedic surgery and member of the UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center, led the study and was quoted. Other researchers included in the study and quoted: Dr. Kang Ting, professor and chairman of the section of orthodontics at the UCLA School of Dentistry; Dr. Ben Wu, professor of bioengineering, and Dr. Jin Hee Kwak, assistant professor of dentistry.

### **Los Angeles Daily News, Sister Paper Feature UCLA “Big Data” Center**

The Los Angeles [Daily News](#) Feb. 22 featured UCLA’s new Institute for Quantitative and Computational Biosciences which uses “big data” in an effort to uncover how genes and the environment interact, causing disease in some people but not others. The story also appeared in sister publications the Daily Breeze, San Bernardino Sun and Inland Valley Daily News and the Tribune News Service. Dr. Alexander Hoffmann, professor of microbiology and the director of the university’s multidisciplinary Institute for Quantitative and Computational Biosciences, was quoted.

### **KPCC Taps Allergy Expert**

Dr. Maria Garcia-Lloret, assistant professor of pediatric allergy and immunology at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, was featured Feb. 24 on KPCC 89.3FM’s “Air Talk” ([part 1](#), [part 2](#)) in a segment on peanut allergies.

### **The Vaccination Battle**

[The Hollywood Reporter](#) published Feb. 19 a guest column authored by 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, about the clash between pro-vaccine supporters and those who are against vaccinations.

### **Networks Needed for Early Childhood Development**

[Governing](#) magazine Feb. 12 published an article authored by Dr. Neal Halfon, director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities, about the need to bring together a network of community partners to help improve the first five years of children’s lives as the most crucial foundation to optimizing their overall development.

### **Protection against Measles**

Dr. Tanya Altmann, assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, appeared Feb. 10 on [KTLA-Channel 5](#) to discuss how people can protect themselves and their children against the measles.

### **Midnight Snacking Can Affect Health, Memory, and Sleep, Reports Smithsonian Magazine**

Dr. Christopher Colwell, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Feb. 17 [Smithsonian.com](#) article about a forthcoming study he co-authored that found, in mice, late night snacking can disrupt the sleep cycle.

### **Spotlight on New Gambling App**

Dr. Timothy Fong, an associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, and director of the Impulse Control Disorders Clinic, was featured in the Feb. 19 [VegasInc.com](#) about an app he and his colleagues developed 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.

### **Examiner.com Explains Huntington’s Disease Discovery**

Dr. Xiaofeng Gu, an assistant researcher in the lab of Dr. William Yang, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Feb. 13 [Examiner.com](#) article about their research that developed a mouse model for Huntington’s disease. The research led to the discovery of a specific domain on a

protein that caused multiple disease-like symptoms and neuronal cell loss that are reminiscent of those found in Huntington's patients.

#### **Forever Young: Meditation Preserves Brain Tissue**

Dr. Eileen Luders, assistant professor of neurology, and Dr. Florian Kurth, a post-doctoral scholar in the UCLA Brain Mapping Center, continue to be mentioned in the media regarding their research that compared MRI brain images of people who meditate compared to those who don't. They found that, on average, people who meditate have less age-related atrophy in the brain's gray matter, the tissue that contains neurons. The additional coverage included Feb. 16 in [Reuters](#) and Feb. 19 in [Neurology Now](#).

#### **Health Web Site Addresses Income Inequality and Poor Health**

Dr. Linda Rosenstock, a professor of health policy and management and the former dean of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured in a Feb. 26 [MedicalXpress](#) and Feb. 25 [MyScience.us](#) articles about the health impact of income inequality upon low-end wage earners.

#### **BBC Tackles Lack of Sleep**

Dr. Jerome Siegel, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, and chief of neurobiology research at the Sepulveda Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Mission Hills, Calif., was featured in a Feb. 25 [BBC.com](#) article about sleep, how long a human can stay awake, and what the consequences of going without sleep for an extended period are.

#### **Conejo Valley Paper Covers Community Forum**

[The Acorn](#) Feb. 2 reported on an educational forum for parents on the measles epidemic and the importance of vaccinations. Dr. Matteo Dinolfo, medical director of the UCLA Department of Medicine's community practices, was a featured speaker at the Las Virgenes Unified School District event and was quoted throughout the article.

#### **Continued Coverage for Teen and Young Adult Cancer Program**

A [KNBC-Channel 4](#) segment that highlighted the Daltrey/Townshend Teen and Young Adult Cancer Program at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica that originally aired Feb. 17 in Los Angeles was rebroadcast on more than 25 NBC affiliate stations nationwide during the past week. The segment featured Dr. Noah Federman, director, UCLA Pediatric Sarcoma Program and one of his patients.

#### **California Uninsured Rate Dropping Under Obamacare**

Data from the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research's California Health Interview Survey was cited by [California Healthline](#) Feb 26 and [Payers and Providers](#) Feb. 25 on how expanded Affordable Care Act coverage has reduced the state's uninsured rate by as much as 40 percent.

#### **Many Families Could See Higher 2015 Tax Bills Due to Affordable Care Act Subsidized Coverage**

Dr. Gerald Kominski, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was interviewed by [Kaiser Health News](#) in a Feb. 26 story on how certain middle-class taxpayers may have to pay back excess Obamacare subsidies they received in previous years. The story also ran Feb. 26 in the [Chicago Daily Herald](#), [Daily Beast](#), [Heartland.org](#), [Jackson Free Press](#), [Kitsap Sun](#), and [WebMD](#).

#### **Public Health Adjunct to Take over Animal Care Center**

Dr. James Greenwood, adjunct professor of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed by the [Orange County Register](#) Feb. 26 about his decision to take over as interim director of the Irvine Animal Care Center and his plans for the facility.

#### **BRIEFS**

The Palisadian-Post Feb.19 published two photos from the People Animal Connection's Valentine's Day card deliveries at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. One showed volunteers from the organization "Dollies Making a Difference" making the cards; the other

showed a dog delivering a Valentine to a sick child. The Santa Monica Daily Press also published two photos on Feb. 14 from the UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica event.

A Feb. 21 article in the [Marin Independent Journal](#) on the effects of the Affordable Care Act on Marin General Hospital cited data from the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. The article also was republished Feb. 21 by [InsuranceNewsNet](#).

[Imperial Valley Press](#) Feb 24 cited UCLA Center for Health Policy Research health data in a story about Southwest High School students tackling diabetes issues and healthy nutrition habits.

## QUOTABLES

Dr. Susan Babey, senior research scientist and co-director of the chronic disease program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted Feb. 19 in a [Government Executive](#) article on 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 [The Atlantic](#) Feb. 19.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented in a Feb. 24 [HealthDay News](#) story on a study showing that common painkillers such as ibuprofen may raise the risk for heart attack, stroke and/or serious bleeding among heart attack survivors taking prescription blood thinners.

Dr. Marco Iacoboni, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, and director, Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation Lab in the Ahmanson Lovelace Brain Mapping Center, was quoted in a Feb. 14 [New York Times](#) article about social media and the preponderance of online vitriol. One contributing factor is the lack of seeing facial expressions on social media that can lead to a lack of empathy and ethical behavior.

Dr. Richard Jackson, professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in [The Mercury](#) (Pottstown, Pa.) Feb. 24 and [Bizjournals](#) Feb. 19 about a new Urban Land Institute toolkit for building healthier urban environments.

Dr. Reef Karim, an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry (voluntary) at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a Feb 18 [Men's Health](#) article about keeping secrets, and the fact that doing so can impact your health.

Dr. Larissa Mooney, assistant professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, and director of the Addiction Medicine Clinic; Dr. Charles S. Grob, professor of psychiatry; and Dr. Mark Kleiman, a professor of public policy at the Luskin School of Public Affairs, were all featured in a Feb. 25 [Vox.com](#) article about the risks of alcohol, marijuana, and other drugs.

Dr. Anne W. Rimoin, associate professor in the department of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a Feb. 23 [People Magazine](#) article about the spread of the current measles outbreak in the U.S. and what parents can do to keep their kids safe.

Dr. Dan Siegel, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Feb. 25 [Cosmopolitan.com](#) article about the disruption of sleep that can be caused by using electronic devices at night before sleep.

Dr Isaac Yang, assistant professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented in a Feb. 10 story by [Revolt](#) about the possible medical issues facing Whitney Houston's daughter.

---

UCLA's Health Sciences Media Relations office e-publishes this report weekly. For more information, please call Roxanne Moster, director of Health Sciences Media Relations, or Enrique Rivero, senior

media relations officer, at 310-794-0777. Our office also offers publicity for new research, medical breakthroughs, clinical trial recruitment, inspirational patient stories and more. To identify the appropriate public information officer for your department, visit [www.uclahealth.org/mediacontacts](http://www.uclahealth.org/mediacontacts).