



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT

For the week of **Feb. 22-28, 2013**

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Zapping Zits with Friendly Bacteria

A study led by Huiying Li, assistant professor of molecular and medical pharmacology and a member of UCLA's Crump Institute for Molecular Imaging, discovering that a friendly strain of the bacteria linked to acne may help protect the skin from pimples, garnered wide coverage. The study was conducted with researchers at the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute and Washington University in St. Louis. Published in the Journal of Investigative Dermatology, the findings could lead to a probiotic cream that helps prevent zits before they start. Coverage included Feb. 28 stories by [NBC News](#), [TIME](#), [Yahoo! News](#), [HealthDay News](#), [Science](#), [Discover](#), the [Los Angeles Times](#), [Toronto Star](#), [Scientific American](#), [KPCC 89.3FM](#), [Daily Breeze](#), [Medscape](#), [Medical News Today](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Science Blog](#), [Counsel and Heal](#), [Healio](#), [Mother Nature Network](#), [Science Daily](#), [BlissTree](#), and [Softpedia](#). Li and co-author Dr. Noah Craft, director of the Center for Immunotherapeutics Research at LA BioMed, were quoted.

Online Technology Media Light Up Over UCLA Liquid Biopsy

[Examiner.com](#), [Science Daily](#) February 22, [Solid State Technology](#), [e! Science News](#), [medGadget](#), [SciTech Daily](#), [Tendencias Cientificas](#), [Bioengineers at Work](#), [theinnoplex.com](#), [Quest – Science for South Africa](#), [Thunderfeeds.com](#), [News Whip](#), [rsshog.com](#), [Knowledge of Medicine](#), [Medical News 4 Doctor](#), February 25, [topix.com](#), [eWallstreeter](#), [Sharjah Clinics Directory](#), [History Scoper](#), [Ciencia al Dia](#), [Isaude.net](#), February 26, and [Medical News Today](#), [Medical Lexicon](#), [domain-b.com](#), [News Medical](#), [Movie Balla](#), [SmartBrief](#), [Alternative FuseNews](#), [Road Runner](#), [I4U News](#), [All Voices.com](#) February 27 spotlighted a study led by Hsian-Rong Tseng, associate professor of molecular and medical pharmacology at the Crump Institute for Molecular Imaging and a member of the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and the California NanoSystems Institute, describing dramatic improvements to their NanoVelcro “liquid biopsy” chip for blood samples that safely traps circulating cancer cells for diagnosis and monitoring.

Doctor Comments on Rise in Breast Cancer among Younger Women

Dr. Patricia Ganz, professor of health services at the Fielding School of Public Health, professor of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine, and director of the division of cancer prevention & control research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted February 27 in [USA Today](#), [Detroit Free Press](#), [News10.net](#), [Red Orbit](#), and [KNX 1070AM](#) reports about a Journal of the American Medical Association study finding increasing rates of advanced breast cancer among younger women in the U.S.

NPR-Affiliate Explores Doctor Shortage

[KPCC 89.3FM](#) Feb. 22 ran an online story about how the anticipated shortage of primary care physicians will affect consumers, particularly with the onset of the Affordable Care Act. Fourth-year medical students Lauren Wolchok and Michael Wolfe were quoted.

UCLA Heart Transplant Recipient Meets Donor Family

The Oprah Winfrey Network's “[Lost and Found](#)” Jan. 24 aired a story about a 19-year-old UCLA heart transplant recipient who met the family of her organ donor. Dr. Juan Alejos, professor of pediatric cardiology and director of the pediatric heart transplant program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was interviewed.

NY Times Reports that Female Veterans Have Hard Time Coping

An article in the Feb. 27 [New York Times](#) about homelessness and other challenges facing female military veterans cited research by Dr. Donna Washington, associate professor of medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and the Veterans Affairs Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System,

showing that many female veterans who become homeless were victims of sexual harassment or assaults during their military service. Washington was quoted.

KABC Explores UCLA-Developed Diagnostic Tool

[KABC-Channel 7](#) Feb. 25 aired a story about VisualDx, a new diagnostic tool developed with the expertise of UCLA professors of medicine and researchers at the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. Dr. Noah Craft, an LA BioMed lead researcher who is the chief medical officer for Logical Images, Inc., the company that developed VisualDx, demonstrated how physicians can input symptoms into a smart phone or iPad app and retrieve images of diseases for comparison purposes, resulting in more accurate diagnoses and fewer medical mistakes.

Health Site Probes Virus-Fighting Protein

[Medical-Horizons.net](#) Feb. 25 reported on research led by Su-Yang Liu, a student in the department of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics, identifying a protein with broad virus-fighting properties that potentially could be used as a weapon against deadly human pathogenic viruses such as HIV, Ebola, Rift Valley Fever, Nipah and others designated "priority pathogens" for national biosecurity purposes.

Infectious Disease Expert Scrutinizes Healthfulness of Horsemeat

The Los Angeles [Daily News](#) Feb. 22 ran a column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, examining whether horsemeat poses a threat to human health. The column also ran in the [Pasadena Star-News](#) and [Whittier Daily News](#).

American Medical News Reports on Social Media and HIV Prevention

[American Medical News](#) Feb. 25 reported on research led by Sean Young, assistant professor of family medicine, finding that Facebook and other social media could be useful tools in AIDS and STD prevention.

Doctor Considers the Importance of Pre-Primary Care

The Feb. 27 [Hospitals & Health Networks](#) featured an in-depth interview with Dr. Molly J. Coye, chief innovation officer for UCLA Health's Institute for Innovation in Health, on what Coye considers the most important piece of primary care – pre-primary care.

Psychiatry Prof Discusses Budget Cuts and Unnecessary Medical Procedures

Dr. Kavita Patel, adjunct assistant professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, was interviewed Feb. 25 on [KPCC-89.3FM](#) about the effect potential sequestration budget cuts could have on public health spending in California and Feb. 21 on KPCC's "Air Talk" about an initiative aimed at reducing unnecessary medical procedures by health care providers.

Website Spotlights UCLA Daltrey/Townshend Teen and Young Adult Cancer Program

[MSN Causes](#) Feb. 26 ran a feature on the UCLA Daltrey/Townshend Teen and Young Adult Cancer Program based at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Dr. David Feinberg, president of UCLA Health and CEO of the UCLA Hospital System, and two members of the program's Teen Advisory Board were interviewed.

KABC Taps ER Director to Highlight Bystander CPR

[KABC-Channel 7](#) reported Feb. 27 on the importance of hands-only CPR in saving lives of those suffering sudden cardiac arrest. Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was interviewed, along with a former patient whose life was saved by bystander CPR.

Trades Cover Study on Legal Action in Laser Surgery

[MedPage Today](#), [Healio.com](#) and [Skin & Allergy News](#) reported Feb. 20 on a study reporting that lawsuits on skin laser surgery are increasing. First author Dr. H. Ray Jalian, health sciences clinical instructor in the division of dermatology, was quoted in the coverage. He conducted the research while at Harvard. The study ran in the Feb. issue of JAMA Dermatology.

Websites Cover Endocrine Study

[Indo-Asian News Service](#) Feb. 24, [MedIndia](#) Feb. 23, [BrightSurf](#) Feb. 22, and [Biomedicine](#), [Science Daily](#), and [Medical Express](#) Feb. 21 highlighted a study that found unusually high calcium levels in the blood can almost always be traced to primary hyperparathyroidism, an undertreated, underreported condition that affects mainly women and the elderly. The condition, which results from overactive parathyroid glands and includes symptoms of bone loss, depression and fatigue that may go undetected for years, is most often seen in African American women over the age of 50. Study author Dr. Michael Yeh, an associate professor of surgery and endocrinology, was quoted.

Health Mag Notes Link between Vaccine and Mental State

Dr. Michael Irwin, professor of psychiatry and director of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology at the Semel Institute, was featured in February's [Prevention](#) Magazine regarding his research finding that the vaccine for the viral disease shingles is less effective in elderly individuals who suffer from depression, and that the finding may have implications for other vaccines.

KCAL Smells Something Fishy about Labels

William McCarthy, adjunct professor of psychology and health services at the Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed Feb. 21 on [KCAL-Channel 9](#) about the widespread mislabeling of seafood in Southern California, which can pose a risk to pregnant women.

UK Papers Report that Seals Sleep While They're Awake

Jerome Siegel, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and a member of the UCLA Brain Research Institute, was featured in Feb. 21 [Independent](#) (UK) and Feb. 23 [Daily Mirror](#) articles regarding his research revealing the brain chemistry that allows seals to remain half-awake and half-asleep at the same time.

Online News Outlets Highlight Cardiac Stem Cell Study

[Examiner.com](#) and [Stem Cell News Blog](#) Feb. 25 highlighted a clinical trial that is testing using angina patients' own stem cells to try to restore blood flow to the heart. Dr. Ali Nsair, an assistant professor in residence of cardiology, and Dr. Jonathan Tobis, a clinical professor of cardiology, are leading the study.

Media Nationwide Cover News that Steve Garvey has Prostate Cancer

[Yahoo! Sports](#), [Hard Ball Talk](#), [Fan Nation](#), [ESPN](#), [CBSSport.com](#), the [Tampa Bay Times](#), [True Blue LA](#), the [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#), [Examiner.com](#), the [Orange County Register](#), [Help with Cancer](#), the [San Diego Union-Tribune](#), [NBC Sports](#), the Los Angeles [Daily News](#), the [Los Angeles Times](#) and dozens of other news outlets and blogs nationwide reported Feb. 22 that baseball player Steve Garvey is battling prostate cancer. Garvey was operated on by Dr. Mark Litwin, chair of the UCLA Department of Urology.

LA Times Reports on Nutritional Supplements Maker and UCLA

A Feb. 24 column in the [Los Angeles Times](#) highlighted contributions made to UCLA's Center for Human Nutrition and UCLA medical researchers by the nutritional supplement firm Herbalife. Dr. David Heber, professor of medicine and director of the Center for Human Nutrition; Dr. Louis J. Ignarro, professor of molecular and medical pharmacology; Dr. Jenny Kim, associate professor of dermatology and director of the UCLA Clinic for Acne, Rosacea and Aesthetics; and Dr. Gary Small, professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Center on Aging, were cited.

BRIEFS

The UCLA AIDS Institute was mentioned in Feb. 22 [Del Mar Times](#) and Feb. 27 [Malibu Times](#) stories about the 12th annual 26-hour student dance marathon, which raised money for the Institute and for several pediatric AIDS organizations.

UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center was cited in a Feb. 26 [Lompoc Record](#) story about a breast cancer survivor who became a lymphedema therapist and is now a UCLA patient in remission with acute myeloid leukemia.

UCLA Health System's tattoo policy was cited in a Feb. 27 [Forbes.com](#) article on workplace tattoo policies.

A Feb 22 [Beverly Hills Courier](#) post featured a study from the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition seeking overweight adolescents for a new study. Study researchers Dr. Joanna Yeh, pediatric gastroenterology fellow at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, and Dr. Zhaoping Li, professor of clinical medicine and associate director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, were quoted.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Andrew Da Lio, clinical professor and chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery, was quoted in a Feb. 24 [USA Today](#) article about Americans and cosmetic surgery.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented Feb. 25 in a [HealthDay News](#) article about screening children for high blood pressure.

Dr. Jody Heymann, dean of the Fielding School of Public Health and founding director of the World Policy Analysis Center at UCLA, was quoted in a Feb. 24 [New York Times](#) article about maternity, family and medical leave in the United States.

Shana Alex Lavarreda, director of health insurance studies at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted in a Feb. 19 [Riverside Press-Enterprise](#) article about a Riverside County health fair that will provide free medical and dental care to uninsured or underinsured people.

Dr. Susan Leonard, assistant clinical professor of medicine in the division of geriatrics, was quoted in a Feb. 26 [U.S. News & World Report](#) article about ways to ensure that nursing homes are properly caring for your loved ones.

Mary Marfisee, medical director of the UCLA School of Nursing's Health Center at the Union Rescue Mission, was quoted Feb. 22 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about an outbreak of tuberculosis in Los Angeles' skid row area.

Tom Otis, vice-chair of the department of neurobiology, commented in a Feb. 28 [KPCC 89.3FM](#) report about the potential effects of sequestration cuts on medical research.

Stacey Scarborough, director of the Children First Early Head Start program at Venice Family Clinic, was quoted Feb. 25 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) story about how the U.S. debt is affecting Americans and threatening funding for federal programs.

Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and psychiatry, and a member of the Imaging Genetics Center, Laboratory of Neuro Imaging (LONI), and the Semel Institute, was quoted in January's [AARP Magazine](#) about how exercise, by increasing blood flow, benefits the brain.

Dr. Neil Wenger, professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research and director of the UCLA Healthcare Ethics Center, was quoted in a Feb. 22 [Las Vegas Sun](#) editorial about the different ways that the California and Nevada medical boards dealt with a doctor accused of assaulting a woman.

Dr. Lorraine Young, health sciences clinical professor and co-chief of dermatology clinical services, was quoted in a Feb. 23 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about what types of soaps to use and avoid when washing your hands.

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