



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT For the week of Feb. 26 – March 4, 2010

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AP, Reuters Compare Stroke Prevention Approaches

Memory Expert Interviewed on NPR

Reuters Examines Myth of the Dumb Jock

Unmarried Women Less Likely to have Health Insurance, UPI Reports

Asian News International, Online Press Spotlight HIV Removal

HIV Plus Magazine Highlights Moms' Drug-adherence Problem

Chronicle of Higher Ed Interviews Nursing Researcher

Disaster Expert Pens Article for Huffington Post

Nurse Profiled in Alum Newsletter for Hospital Volunteer Work

BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

AP, Reuters Compare Stroke Prevention Approaches

Associated Press and Reuters reported Feb. 26 on a clinical trial finding both surgery and carotid artery stenting safe and effective for stroke prevention. UCLA principal investigator Dr. Wesley Moore, professor of vascular surgery and the trial's national surgical director, was quoted. The AP story was syndicated by numerous newspapers, including the Dallas Morning News, BusinessWeek, Miami Herald and Herald Tribune.

"Stents, Surgery, both Prevent Strokes"

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE61P2N420100226?feedType=nl&feedName=ushealth1100>

"Stroke Study Finds Neck Stents Safe, Effective"

<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/APStories/stories/D9E40OMO0.html>

Memory Expert Interviewed on NPR

National Public Radio aired a March 1 interview with Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, about cognitive changes in the aging brain. The segment cited his research finding that older adults with little Internet experience are able to trigger brain centers that control decision-making and complex reasoning after just one week of surfing the Web.

"The Aging Brain is Less Quick, but More Shrewd"

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=124118077&ft=1&f=1007>

Hanford Sentinel Explores Cure for Rare Form of Epilepsy

The gene therapy research of Dr. Antonio Delgado-Escueta, professor of neurology, was featured in a Feb. 26 Hanford Sentinel (CA) article about a high school student suffering from Lafora disease, a rare and deadly form of inherited epilepsy.

"School, Students Reach Out to Help DJ"

<http://www.hanfordsentinel.com/articles/2010/02/26/news/doc4b86cac676d02719973100.txt>

Reuters Examines Myth of the Dumb Jock

William McCarthy, adjunct associate professor of health services in the School of Public Health, was featured in a Feb. 25 Reuters report on his research finding that middle and high school students who are less aerobically fit than their peers tended to score lower on a number of standardized academic tests.

"Physically Fit Students do Better Academically too: Study"

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE61P08T20100226>

Unmarried Women Less Likely to have Health Insurance, UPI Reports

The research of Roberta Wyn, associate director of the Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health, was featured Feb. 25 by United Press International. She found that older women who have never married or are divorced, separated or widowed are twice as likely to be uninsured as their married counterparts.

"Women's Mid-Life Crisis -- No Health Ins."

http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2010/02/25/Womens-mid-life-crisis-no-health-ins/UPI-93521267160132/

Asian News International, Online Press Spotlight HIV Removal

Asian News International, Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News and the Family Research Council blog reported Feb. 26 on research led by Saki Shimizu, a postdoctoral scholar in hematology and oncology. He described a way to remove a cell receptor to which HIV binds. The study was published in the Feb. 25 issue of the journal Blood.

"Gene-based Stem Cell Therapy May Help Treat HIV-infected Individuals"

http://www.dnaindia.com/scitech/report_gene-based-stem-cell-therapy-may-help-treat-hiv-infected-individuals_1352817

"Scientists Use shRNA to Remove Key HIV Co-Receptor"

<http://www.genengnews.com/news/bnitem.aspx?name=76395110>

"Engineering Adult Stem Cells against HIV"

<http://www.frcblog.com/2010/02/engineering-adult-stem-cells-against-hiv/>

HIV Plus Magazine Highlights Moms' Drug-adherence Problem

The March/April issue of HIV Plus Magazine cited research by Debra Murphy, a researcher in psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, finding that HIV-positive mothers have poor medication-adherence rates. Murphy was quoted.

"Care Giver"

http://www.hivplussmag.com/Story.asp?id=2074&categoryid=1&issue_emi=current&jt=0

Chronicle of Higher Ed Interviews Nursing Researcher

The Feb. 28 Chronicle of Higher Education published a Q&A with Linda Sarna, professor of nursing at the UCLA School of Nursing, about her research addressing tobacco use, nursing care for people with lung cancer and smoking cessation programs for nurses.

"Nurse Dedicates Career to Limiting Tobacco Dependence"

<http://chronicle.com/article/5-Minutes-With-a-Nurse-Who/64386/>

Disaster Expert Pens Article for Huffington Post

The Huffington Post ran a Feb. 27 column by Dr. Peter Katona, clinical professor of medicine, division of infectious diseases, on the need for adequate planning and preparation for catastrophic emergencies that would tax the medical system, such as an earthquake, major flu epidemic or terrorist activity.

"Is Our Health System a Homeland Security Liability?"

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/peter-katona/is-our-health-care-system_b_479394.html

Nurse Profiled in Alum Newsletter for Hospital Volunteer Work

The Fall/Winter edition of Johns Hopkins School of Nursing magazine spotlighted alumna Jenn Makely, a clinical nurse specialist in the trauma and general surgery services department at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Makely and her dog, Simon, volunteer at the hospital as members of the UCLA People-Animal Connection program.

“Pooches for Patients”

http://nursing.jhu.edu/alumni/our_alumni/details.aspx?type=alumni&ID=130

BRIEFS

Dr. Antoni Ribas and his work on a clinical trial for melanoma patients were cited in a Feb. 22 story in the New York Times. Ribas is an associate professor of hematology/oncology and a researcher at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

“After a Long Fight, a Sudden Reprieve”

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/23/health/research/23trial.html>

The Jewish Journal published a March 2 story about a former pediatric patient at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital who developed an iPhone “app” and is donating some of the proceeds to the hospital to benefit other young patients.

“Young Entrepreneur Pays It Forward”

http://www.jewishjournal.com/community/article/young_entrepreneur_pays_it_forward_20100302/

Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA was mentioned in a March 2 Los Angeles Daily News article about an organization called the Clothes Off Our Back Foundation. The hospital is a beneficiary of the charity, which sells celebrity items such as gowns or tuxedos on an auction website.

“Providing for the Needy Gets the Star Treatment”

http://www.dailynews.com/news/ci_14494796

A Feb. 26 New York Times article about a California state senator’s efforts to pass a single-payer health care bill cited research by the Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health examining insurance rates in each of California’s counties.

“Senator Pushes His Plan to Overhaul Health Care”

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/28/us/28sfpolitics.html>

UCLA research was cited in a March 3 HealthDay News article showing that approximately 40 percent of methamphetamine users have serious dental problems and that those who smoke or inhale the drug have lower rates of dental disease than those who inject it.

“Dental Problems Could Point to Meth Use”

<http://www.businessweek.com/lifestyle/content/healthday/636591.html>

QUOTABLES

Gregory Cole, professor of medicine and neurology and associate director of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer Disease Research, was quoted March 2 by MSN.com about the relationship between depression, living a purposeful life, and Alzheimer’s disease.

A Purposeful Life May Stave Off Alzheimer’s”

<http://health.msn.com/health-topics/aging/articlepage.aspx?cp-documentid=100254983>

Gerald Kominski, professor of public health and associate director of the Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health, was quoted in the Feb. 28 San Bernardino County Sun article about the rising cost of individual health insurance plans.

“Broad Health Insurance Costs likely Coming Later”

http://www.sbsun.com/search/ci_14487762?IADID=Search-www.sbsun.com-www.sbsun.com

Nadereh Pourat, director of research planning at the Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health, was quoted in a March 3 Pasadena Star-News article about a local foundation that offers policies from \$10 to \$40 to cover low-cost preventive care procedures for the uninsured.

“A Model of Health: Low-Cost Services Available for Patients in Need”

http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/ci_14507108

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, commented in the March/April edition of the AARP Bulletin about improving brain health.

“Boosting Brain Health”

<http://www.aarpmagazine.org/health/boost-brain-health.html/page=1>

Dr. Brad Spellberg, assistant professor of medicine and infectious diseases at Harbor–UCLA Medical Center, was quoted Feb. 27 in a New York Times article about the *Acinetobacter baumannii* bacterium, which is immune to most antibiotic treatments.

“Rising Threat of Infections Unfazed by Antibiotics”

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/27/business/27germ.html>

Dr. Lonnie Zeltzer, director of the Pediatric Pain Program at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, was interviewed March 1 by Associated Press Radio about a Boston study that examined parents’ choices in hastening the death a dying child.

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