



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT

For the week of Feb. 28-March 6, 2014

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Pediatric Infectious Disease Doctor Discusses Baby Apparently Cured of AIDS

Dr. Yvonne Bryson, chief of pediatric infectious diseases at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented in multiple news stories about a baby born with AIDS whose infection appears to have gone into remission or been eradicated after commencing treatment four hours after birth. Coverage included March 5 stories by the [Associated Press](#), [The New York Times](#), the [Los Angeles Times](#), [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [The Clarion-Ledger](#) (Jackson, Miss.), [The Telegraph](#) (U.K), [Growing Your Baby](#), [The Inquisitr](#), [Tech Times](#), [Medical Daily](#), and [HealthDay News](#); and March 6 by [KNX 1070AM](#), [The Independent](#) (U.K), [CBS News](#), [RT](#), [Deutsche Welle](#) (Germany), the Web site of [KNBC-Channel 4](#), and others. The AP story appeared in numerous national and international outlets, including the New York Post, Newsday, the Herald Sun (Australia), and many others.

Social Media Can Track HIV-Risk Behavior

Research led by Dr. Sean Young, assistant professor of family medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and co-director for the Center for Digital Behavior at UCLA, suggesting that real-time social media like Twitter could be used to track HIV and drug related behavior to detect potential outbreaks as a tool for prevention efforts, garnered wide media interest. Reports were carried March 5 by the [Huffington Post](#) and [Digital Journal](#); March 4 by [CBSNews.com](#), [Business Standard](#) and [APN News](#); March 3 by the [LA Weekly](#), [Ivanhoe Newswire](#), [TechCrunch](#), [Guardian Liberty Voice](#), [Think Progress](#), [Psych Central](#), [Healthcare IT News](#), [News-Medical](#), [KPTV-TV](#) (Portland, Ore.), the Web site of [WWSB-TV](#) (Sarasota, Fla.) and [WTEV-TV](#) (Jacksonville, Fla.); March 2 by [Newsy](#), [Imperial Valley News](#), [University Herald](#), [Breaking News Today](#), [Asian News International](#), [Press Trust of India](#), [WYSM-TV](#) (Lansing, Mich.), [WAVY-TV](#) (Norfolk, Va.), and [WINK-Channel 11](#) (Fort Myers, Fla.); and Feb. 28 by a [PBS Newshour](#) blog, [Infection Control Today](#), [MDLinx](#), [Science Codex](#), [ScienceBlog](#), and [ECN](#), and numerous television stations across the country, including [WALB-TV](#) (Albany, Ga.), [KBMT-TV](#) (Beaumont-Port Arthur, Texas), and others. The Newsy video report ran March 3 on the Web sites of the [Palm Beach Post](#) and the [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#). Young is also a member of the UCLA Center for Behavioral and Addiction Medicine, UCLA's Center for HIV Identification, Prevention and Treatment Services, and the UCLA AIDS Institute.

Media Reports on Early Age Smoking and Effect on Teen Brains

Dr. Edythe London, professor of psychiatry and molecular and medical pharmacology in the Semel Institute and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was featured widely regarding a study by her and her colleagues that showed young cigarette smokers have differences in a specific brain region compared with non-smokers, that the differences emerged even with a relatively light smoking habit, and finally, may be the reason adult smokers have such a difficult time quitting. Coverage included March 3 by [Time.com](#), [Reuters](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Discovermagazine.com](#), [Baltimore Sun](#), [Chicago Tribune](#), [Science Newsline](#); [HealthCanal.com](#), [EINNews.com](#), and the [Daily Mail](#) (U.K.); March 4 by [KCBS 740AM](#) (San Francisco), [Nature World News](#) and [Science Codex](#); and March 5 by [WTFX-TV](#) (Philadelphia), [WFLD-TV](#) (Chicago), [WJBK-TV](#) (Detroit), and [TXCN Cable News](#).

Washington Post Reports on Memory Care

The UCLA Longevity Center and its innovative UCLA Memory Care program was featured in a March 4 [Washington Post](#) article that points to the benefits discovered from combining memory training, stress management, and emotional support for both Alzheimer's patient and caregivers. Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center; Dr. Karen Miller, associate clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute who developed the program; and Dr. Ashley Curiel, a psychologist and instructor at the UCLA Longevity Center, were quoted.

Media Shines Light on Antiviral

[MDLinx](#) and [Imperial Valley News](#) March 3; [Health Canal](#), [EIN](#), and [Medical Xpress](#) Feb. 28 reported on research led by Frederic Vigant, a former postdoctoral researcher in the UCLA Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics, finding evidence that photosensitizing a virus' membrane covering can inhibit its ability to enter cells and potentially lead to the development of stronger, cheaper antivirals that will fight a host of tough viruses.

Vitamin A May Help Combat Tuberculosis

[Health Research Reports](#) Feb. 27 covered UCLA research showing that vitamin A may play an important role in combating TB. The team describes for the first time the mechanism by which vitamin A and a specific gene assist the immune system by reducing the level of cholesterol in cells infected with TB. This is important because cholesterol can be used by TB bacteria for nutrition and other needs. Senior author Dr. Philip Liu, assistant professor of medicine in the divisions of dermatology and orthopedic surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Orthopaedic Hospital Research Center; co-first author Elliot Kim, a graduate student in the department of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics at the Geffen School, and co-first author Matthew Wheelwright, a medical and doctoral student at the University of Minnesota who was an undergraduate research assistant in Liu's lab when the research was conducted, were quoted.

Websites Feature Tips for a Healthy Colon

[Westwood/Century City Patch](#), [Examiner.com](#) and [HealthCanal](#) March 5 and [News-Medical](#) and [WN.com](#) March 6 featured UCLA tips to reduce the risk of colorectal cancer. Dr. Anne Lin, assistant professor of general surgery for the UCLA Health System and David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted. March is colorectal cancer awareness month.

Canada's CBC Covers Impact of Technology on Kids

A TV and radio series on the Canadian Broadcast Companies (CBC) about the impact of technology on children's brains featured a [Feb. 23](#) interview with Dr. Gary Small, UCLA's Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center.

Men, Women and Heart Medications

The Hallmark Channel's March 3 "[Home and Family](#)" featured an in-studio interview with Dr. Karol Watson, professor of medicine in the division of cardiology and director of the UCLA Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Health Program. She discussed the differences between men and women related to heart disease and how these factors may impact their reactions to medications.

More Media Coverage about Tylenol and Use by Pregnant Women

Dr. Beate Ritz, professor of epidemiology and environmental health sciences, chair of the epidemiology department at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and a professor of neurology, and colleagues were featured Feb. 25 by [Press Trust of India](#) and March 4 by [Ziptrials.us](#) regarding their study showing that children of mothers who take the painkiller acetaminophen during pregnancy may have a higher risk of attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and other behavioral issues.

Media Notes More Adult Children Living with Parents

Dr. Steven Wallace, associate director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Feb. 27 by the [Associated Press](#), [KFWB 980AM](#), [KPCC 89.3FM](#), [KRCR-TV](#) (Chico, Calif.), and [KESQ-TV](#) (Palm Springs, Calif.) regarding a study by the Center that detailed how the recent recession forced scores of adult children — many of them unemployed or underemployed — to return to live with their parents, increasing household expenses by 50 percent or more for many families.

Socioeconomic Influences on Child Health

[Huffington Post](#), [Reuters Health](#), the [Los Angeles Times](#), [Reuters](#), [HealthDay News](#), and [Live Science](#) March 5 cited an editorial published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) authored

by Dr. Neal Halfon, professor of pediatrics, public health and public policy and director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities, that discussed how socioeconomic influences affect child health. The editorial was in response to two JAMA studies—one that found that Native American communities with casinos tend to have lower rates of childhood obesity and one that looked at how moving out of impoverished communities affects boys' and girls' mental health differently. Halfon was quoted.

Stroke Study Receives More Coverage

[Big News Network](#) Feb. 17, [Bruins Nation](#) Feb. 23, [Family Practice News](#) Feb. 25 and [Medscape](#) Feb. 28 reported on a study that found that while intravenous magnesium does not improve outcomes for stroke patients, the ambulance-transport system the study set in place is quick and efficient enough to allow researchers to study other potential stroke-treatment agents administered within an hour of the onset of symptoms. The study was led by Dr. Jeffrey Saver, professor of neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of the UCLA Stroke Center, and Dr. Sidney Starkman, co-director of the UCLA Stroke Center and professor of emergency medicine and neurology at the Geffen School.

Tissue-Penetrating Light Releases Chemotherapy Inside Cancer Cells

[Voice of America](#) Feb. 27; [HealthCanal](#), [WN.com](#), and [Science Codex](#) Feb.28; [ScienceBlog](#) March 2, and [Medical News Today](#) March 4 reported on new nanotechnology developed by scientists at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center that uses tissue-penetrating laser light to release chemotherapy molecules inside cancer cells. Dr. Jeffrey Zink, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, and Dr. Fuyu Tamanoi, professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics, were quoted.

Experimental Treatment Eradicates Acute Leukemia in Mice

[Bioscience Technology](#) Feb. 27; [Zeenews.com](#), [Medical Boox](#), [Yahoo! News](#), [Top News Health](#), [Times of India](#) and [Business Standard](#) Feb. 28; [TruHealth](#) March 3; [Grey Horizon](#) March 5; [Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators](#) and [Oncology Practice Management](#) March 6, and [ANI News](#) March 7 highlighted a new study from UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center on a new treatment that eradicates leukemia in mice by blocking two important metabolic pathways in the leukemia cells, pathways that are also present in other types of cancer. Dr. Caius Radu, associate professor of the biomedical physics interdepartmental program and molecular & medical pharmacology, and Dr. David Nathanson, assistant professor of molecular and medical pharmacology, were quoted.

Robotic-Assisted Prostate Surgery Offers Better Cancer Control

[The ASCO Post](#) Feb. 2; [Product Design and Development](#), [Onco 'Zine](#), [WN.com](#), [Fertility Portal](#) and [Science Daily](#) Feb. 28; [Med India](#) March 1; [ThirdAge](#) and [The Engineer](#) March 4, and [Renal and Urology News](#) March 6 featured a study from UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center that found a cancer control advantage with robotic-assisted radical prostatectomy, or removal of the prostate, over standard open surgery. Dr. Jim Hu, associate professor and Henry E. Singleton Chair in Urology, was quoted in the coverage.

Survival Advantage of Technique for Detecting Cancer Spread Confirmed

[Imperial Valley News](#) March 3 featured a 10-year UCLA study on sentinel lymph node biopsy for detecting the spread of melanoma to the lymph nodes, which confirmed that patients who had the biopsy technique lived longer without their disease getting worse and were less likely to die from melanoma. Dr. Alistair Cochran, professor of surgery and pathology and laboratory medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in the coverage.

Ventura County Star Features Breathing Lung Clinical Trial

A UCLA lung transplant clinical trial involving an experimental organ-preservation device known as the Organ Care System, which keeps donor lungs functioning and "breathing" in a near-physiologic state outside the body during transport was featured in a March 1 Ventura County Star article. Dr. Abbas Ardehali, professor of cardiothoracic surgery, principal investigator for the clinical trial and director of the heart and lung transplantation program at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, was quoted.

T-Shirts, Cinco de Mayo and Unity

The [Los Angeles Times](#) March 5 featured an op-ed by Dr. David Hayes-Bautista, professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research and director of the UCLA Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, on the history of Cinco de Mayo as a Mexican-American holiday and a recent court ruling barring high school students near San Jose, Calif., from wearing American flag T-shirts on Cinco de Mayo.

New Laser Removes Tattoos in Fewer Treatments

[CBS Newpath](#) March 3 featured a segment on the UCLA Dermatological Surgery and Laser Center's new laser, which removes tattoos more quickly and efficiently than traditional laser systems. Dr. Gary Lask, director of the center and clinical professor of medical dermatology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and one of his patients were interviewed for the story, which aired on more than 60 CBS affiliates across the country. Lask was also quoted in a March 1 [Asian News International](#) story about the laser.

Analyzing 'Healthy' Fast Food

[KPAM 860AM](#) (Portland, Ore.) reported March 1 on a study led by Dr. Lenard Lesser, a former physician with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars program at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, comparing nutritional data and the average number of calories in meals consumed by teens at Subway and McDonald's restaurants.

KTLA Investigates Incident

[KTLA-Channel 5](#) reported March 5 and 6 about an incident involving a UCLA transportation van that was transporting a patient to a medical appointment.

BRIEFS

The Rape Treatment Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was referenced in a Feb. 28 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about a rape victim winning a lawsuit against a West Hollywood nightclub and one of its former employees.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Liana Apostolova, an associate professor of neurology and member of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research, was quoted in a March 6 [WebMD](#) article about a study showing that the number of people who die from Alzheimer's disease may be five times higher than previously thought.

Dr. Prosper Benhaim, chief of hand surgery and associate professor of orthopaedic surgery, was quoted Feb. 28 in a [Reuters Health](#) article about a new study finding that wearing finger splints every night can ease the pain of hand osteoarthritis.

Dr. Christopher Colwell, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a Feb. 28 [NBCNews.com](#) article about how insomniacs may have more active brains than sound sleepers.

Dr. Judith Currier, chief of the UCLA Division of Infectious Diseases and associate director of the UCLA Center for Clinical AIDS Research and Education, was quoted March 4 in an [Associated Press](#) story on studies into an injectable drug that could prevent infection with HIV.

Dr. Bruce Ferrell, professor of medicine in the division of geriatrics and director of UCLA's Palliative Care Department, was quoted March 3 in a [New York Times](#) blog article about why older people tend to cope better with pain than younger people.

Dr. Lynn Gordon, associate dean of diversity affairs at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in a March 3 [HealthDay News](#) article about the fact that medical research is still ignoring women's unique health issues far more than it should. The article was picked up by numerous other news outlets.

Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases and of public health, and in the UCLA Program in Global Health, was quoted March 4 in [HealthDay News](#) and [Cosmopolitan](#) articles about the ability of the human papillomavirus vaccine to protect women from contracting infections that can lead to cervical cancer.

Dr. Gerald Kominski, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and a professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted March 5 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about a TV advertisement for Covered California, the state's insurance exchange.

Dr. Shana Alex Lavarreda, director of health insurance studies at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a March 1 [Los Angeles Daily News](#) article about variations in cost for health care plans purchased through Covered California.

Dr. Beate Ritz, professor of epidemiology and environmental health sciences, chair of the epidemiology department at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and a professor of neurology, was quoted in a March 1 [CNN.com](#) article about the difficulty for epidemiologists of finding the origin of particular birth defects.

Dr. Robert Roberts, professor of pediatric allergy and immunology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted Dec. 24 in a [WebMD](#) article on feeding tips for babies who have eczema.

Dr. Dylan Roby, director of the health economics and evaluation research program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a March 5 [Kaiser Health](#) news article which was picked up by the [Washington Post](#) and [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) about a proposed ballot measure by a California health care workers' union to cap the amount hospitals can charge patients.

Dr. Nina Shapiro, professor of head and neck surgery and director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted Feb. 20 in a [Live Science](#) article and Feb. 23 in an [Indo-Asian News Service](#) article about why some wealthy and educated parents decide not to have their children vaccinated.

Dr. Margaret Stuber, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, commented Dec. 18 in an [Everyday Health](#) article about the healing benefits of laughter.

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