For the week of March 19 - 25, 2010

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Media Follow Marathon Runners

L.A. Times Promotes Health Benefits of Breathmobile

N.Y. Times Spotlights Brain-Imaging Research

Docs Respond to Health Care Reform on Fox’s “O'Reilly Factor”

Founding Chair of Human Genetics Dies

Local Media Investigate Nanoparticles Study

UPI, Medscape Explore Benefits of Pediatric Medical Home Program

Director of Animal-Assisted Therapy Program Honored by Delta Society

Oregon Paper Reports on Brain Abnormalities, Prenatal Meth Exposure

Channel 7 Covers Match Day

Reuters Health Compares Benefits of Heart Procedures

Neurologist Featured in Psych Society’s Podcast

BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

L.A. Times Chronicles Reunion of Pediatrician, Airlifted Infant
The Los Angeles Times published a front-page March 25 story on the reunion between a Vietnamese-American man and the pediatrician who cared for him 35 years ago after he was airlifted as an infant from Saigon and brought to UCLA Medical Center for treatment. The Stars and Stripes also syndicated the Times article on March 25.
“Infant Airlifted Out of Vietnam Thanks UCLA Doctor 35 Years Later”

Media Follow Marathon Runners
Coverage of runners who were transported to Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital following illness or injury in the Los Angeles Marathon was reported March 21 and March 22 by City News Service, KPCC 89.3 FM, Los Angeles Daily News, KTTV-Channel 11, KNBC-Channel 4 and Xinhua (India). Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the
emergency department at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, commented in the Fox and Xinhua reports.

“Firefighters: LA Marathoner Collapses, 7 Others Injured”
http://www.scp.org/news/2010/03/21/firefighters-la-marathoner-collapses-7-others-inju/

“Few Injuries among Thousands of Runners in L.A. Marathon”

“30+ Marathon Runners Taken to Hospitals”
http://www.myfoxla.com/dpp/sports/marathon-runners-hospitalized-20100321

“Marathoner in Critical Condition”

“Casualties Reported as Result of Los Angeles Marathon”

L.A. Times Promotes Health Benefits of Breathmobile
The Los Angeles Times reported March 22 on a mobile asthma clinic called the UCLA Breathmobile that offers free medical services to young patients. Dr. Maria Garcia-Lloret, assistant professor of pediatric allergy and immunology at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, was interviewed.

“Breathmobile’s Asthma Specialists Will See Your Child”
http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-your-money-20100322,0,4300142.story

N.Y. Times Spotlights Brain-Imaging Research
The New York Times reported March 22 about a brain-imaging study by Dr. Jamie Feusner, assistant professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, that found that people suffering from a condition known as body dysmorphic disorder exhibit abnormal brain activity when seeing their own faces.

“When Your Looks Take Over Your Life”

Docs Respond to Health Care Reform on Fox’s “O’Reilly Factor”
Dr. Mark Morocco, associate clinical professor of medicine and associate residency director, division of emergency medicine, appeared March 19 on Fox News’ “The O’Reilly Factor” to discuss health care reform.

“Medical Revolt Over Obama Care”
http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=124070&key=B7afY5jTNj7zAyyJJ87oh1i8m3LoUI56&email=rchampeau@mednet.ucla.edu

Founding Chair of Human Genetics Dies
The Los Angeles Times published a March 24 obituary on Dr. Leena Peltonen, an unusually prolific genetics researcher whose team discovered mutated genes responsible for 15 inherited diseases and who established the department of human genetics at UCLA. She died of cancer March 11 at her home in Finland. The story was syndicated by the Bellingham (WA) Herald.

“Leena Peltonen Dies at 57; Genetics Researcher”
http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-me-leena-peltonen24-2010mar24,0,6873312.story

Local Media Investigate Nanoparticles Study
Research by UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and Caltech that fights cancer and possibly other disorders by interrupting the messenger RNA that supplies the proteins driving these diseases was featured March 25 by KCBS-Channel 2, KCAL-Channel 9, KTTV-Channel 11, the Pasadena Star-News and Public Reader. Dr. Antoni Ribas, associate professor of hematology/oncology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center, leads the UCLA arm of the study and was interviewed by KCAL/KCBS.

“Clinical Trials by Caltech-led Team Could Open the Door to `Game-changing’ Genetic Therapies”

“Caltech Research Uses Nanotech to Attack Cancer”
http://www.myfoxla.com/dpp/health/caltech-nanotech-cancer-research-20100321

“Cancer Cure Perhaps?”
http://publicreader.blogspot.com/2010/03/cancer-cure-perhaps.html
UPI, Medscape Explore Benefits of Pediatric Medical Home Program
United Press International and Medscape Today reported March 19, and Top News reported March 20 on a UCLA study that found participation in UCLA's medical home program significantly reduced families' use of the emergency room for their child's care. The study was published March 11 in the online edition of the Journal of Pediatrics. Dr. Thomas Klitzner, chief of the UCLA Division of Pediatric Cardiology and executive director of the medical home project at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted.
“Pediatric Medical Home Effective”
http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2010/03/19/Pediatric-medical-home-effective/UPI-21311269053501/
"Medical Home" Concept for Medically Fragile Children Significantly Decreases ED Visits
"Pediatric Medical Homes Prove to be More Efficient"
http://topnews.us/content/213879-pediatric-medical-homes-prove-be-more-efficient

Director of Animal-Assisted Therapy Program Honored by Delta Society
The Delta Society on March 22 spotlighted Jack Barron, director of UCLA's People-Animal Connection Program, as the organization’s volunteer of the week. Barron was cited for his work in promoting the Society’s goals and helping to educate the public about animal-assisted therapy.
“Volunteer Spotlights of the Week”

Oregon Paper Reports on Brain Abnormalities, Prenatal Meth Exposure
Elizabeth Sowell, associate professor of neurology, was featured March 17 in The Oregonian and All Headline News about her study showing that the effects of prenatal methamphetamine exposure may damage children's brains more than alcohol exposure.
“Moms Who Use Meth Harm Babies' Brains”

Channel 7 Covers Match Day
KABC-Channel 7 reported March 18 on UCLA's Match Day, the day when medical students learn where they've been accepted to complete their residencies, or advanced training in their medical specialty.

Reuters Health Compares Benefits of Heart Procedures
Reuters Health reported March 24 on a study comparing the safety and efficacy of heart bypass surgery to angioplasty performed with drug-eluting stents in specific heart disease patients. Findings showed that the more minimally-invasive procedure may provide an alternative for some patients. Dr. Michael Lee, assistant professor of cardiology, was interviewed.

Neurologist Featured in Psych Society's Podcast
Dr. Sheldon Wolf, clinical professor of neurology and director of the Memory Disorders Research and Clinical Program at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, participated in “The Experts Speak -- An Educational Service of the Florida Psychiatric Society,” a series of podcasts geared to the public about mental health. Dr. Wolf spoke about diagnosing dementia.
“Dementia -- A Proper Work-Up”
http://itunes.apple.com/podcast/the-experts-speak-an-educational/id338144165

BRIEFS
Research by the Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health showing that the recession had left nearly 1 in 4 Californians without health insurance at some point in 2009 was cited in a March 23 Orange County Register article about who will be affected by the recent passage of health care legislation.
“How the New Law will Affect Important Stakeholders”
http://www.ocregister.com/articles/health-240549-coverage-insurance.html

Dr. Ronald Busuttil, William P. Longmire, Jr. chair in surgery and chief of the liver and pancreas transplantation program, was mentioned in a March 19 San Jose Mercury News story on Governor
Schwarzenegger’s press conference announcing a proposed bill that would broaden the state’s organ donor program. Busuttil spoke at the event.

“Apple CEO Steve Jobs Joins Schwarzenegger to Push Organ Donor Registry”

QUOTABLES

Dr. John Adams, professor of orthopaedic surgery, was quoted March 22 in a Los Angeles Times article about osteoporosis drugs.
“Take Bisphosphonates, Break a Leg?”
http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-closer-20100322_0,1979825.story

Susan Cochran, a professor of epidemiology at the School of Public Health, was quoted in a March 18 ABCNews.com article about a study of clinical trials related to couples and sexual function that excluded people in same-sex relationships.
“Are Gay People Excluded from Clinical Trials?”

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented March 23 in HealthDay News about high blood pressure indicating long-term survival in patients admitted to intensive care due to chest pains. He also commented March 19 in another HealthDay story about a study showing that patients taking high doses of a specific cholesterol-lowering medication could be at greater risk of muscle injury.
“When Heart is in Crisis, High Blood Pressure a Good Sign”
http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=637235
“High Dose Zocor Boosts Muscle Injury Risk”
http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=637221

Dr. Peter Galier, internal medicine specialist and associate professor of medicine, was quoted in a March 19 WebMD story about a study on younger balding men and prostate-cancer risk. The article also appeared on MedicineNet.com. He also was quoted in a March 23 WebMD article about middle-aged women and exercise to prevent weight gain.
“Balding Before 30 May Cut Prostate Cancer Risk”
“Exercise 1 Hour a Day to Avoid Weight Gain”

David Hayes-Bautista, director of the Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, appeared on a panel that discussed the impact of health care reform in three March 22 Univision reports.

Gerald Kominski, professor of public health and associate director of the Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health, commented March 23 in the San Bernardino Sun, the March 22 Ventura County Star, and the March 25 La Opinión on the passage of the health care reform bill.
“Experts: Health System Can Handle New Insured”
“Local Doctors, Insurers Split on Health Reform”

Dr. Mark Morocco, associate clinical professor of medicine, division of emergency medicine, commented March 22 in the Los Angeles Times about how to prepare for a marathon, including how to help prevent injuries and other health issues.
“Fewer Medical Incidents Reported at L.A. Marathon”
http://www.latimes.com/sports/la-sp-marathon-injuries-20100323_0,7403334.story

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor of family medicine, commented March 19 and March 22 in two Univision reports about health care reform.
Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, was quoted in the March 27 New Scientist magazine about the levels of white matter, largely made of the fatty myelin sheaths that wrap around neurons in the brain, and their possible relationship to creativity.
“A Slow Mind May Nurture More Creative Ideas”
http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20527535.500-a-slow-mind-may-nurture-more-creative-ideas.html

Dr. Karol Watson, assistant professor of medicine, division of cardiology, commented March 22 in a Los Angeles Times article about coconut milk.
“Got Coconut Milk?”
http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-0322-nutrition-lab-20100322,0,6565040.story

Gail Wyatt, professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Sexual Health Program, was quoted in a March 19 segment on NBC’s “Today” show about teenage pregnancy.
“Teen Moms Speak Out about Troubles”
http://community.todaymoms.com/_news/2010/03/19/4035009-16-pregnant-could-have-kept-me-49-and-not-pregnant#comments

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