



## **UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT For the week of March 20 - 26, 2009**

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**Medstar Explores Life-saving 3-D Brain Scans**

**AARP Magazine Lauds Top Hospitals**

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#### **NPR Studies Link between Brain's Wiring, Intelligence**

National Public Radio aired a March 20 interview with Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, about his latest research. He used a new type of brain-imaging scanner to show that intelligence is strongly influenced by the quality of the brain's axons, or wiring, that send signals in the brain. A City News Service story also appeared in the March 22 Los Angeles Daily News, and online reports appeared March 23 on KNBC-Channel 4 and KABC-Channel 7, and March 19 in the Hindustan Times.

"Smart People Really Do Think Faster"

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=102169531>

“Bad at Math? Blame it on Your Parents”

[http://www.nbclosangeles.com/health/tips\\_info/Bad-at-Math-Blame-It-on-Your-Parents.html](http://www.nbclosangeles.com/health/tips_info/Bad-at-Math-Blame-It-on-Your-Parents.html)

### **CNN, People Examine Medical Condition Behind Actress' Death**

Dr. Neil Martin, chair of neurosurgery, was featured on the March 19 Anderson Cooper 360 program on CNN, discussing the death of actress Natasha Richardson and epidural hematomas. He also commented on her case March 19 in People magazine.

“Anderson Cooper 360 Degrees”

<http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0903/19/acd.02.html>

“What Caused Natasha Richardson's Fatal Brain Injury?”

[http://www.people.com/people/package/article/0,,20266545\\_20266617,00.html](http://www.people.com/people/package/article/0,,20266545_20266617,00.html)

### **Medstar Explores Life-saving 3-D Brain Scans**

KNBC-Channel 4 aired a Medstar report on March 21 about new 3-D imaging software that enables UCLA interventional radiologists to identify high-risk brain aneurysms and treat them more safely. The software is only available at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and one other U.S. hospital. The report featured Dr. Satoshi Tateshima, assistant professor of radiological sciences, and one of his patients who was treated using information provided by her 3-D brain scan.

“3D Images of Brain Aneurysms Save Lives”

<http://www.nbclosangeles.com/health/topics/3D-Images-of-Brain-Aneurysms-Save-Lives.html>

### **AARP Magazine Lauds Top Hospitals**

The May/June issue of AARP magazine profiled Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center as one of the country's leading hospitals and one of the most highly recommended in a number of medical specialties. The list is based on a survey of physicians nationwide conducted by the nonprofit research organization, Consumers' Checkbook. In addition to making the top 125 list, UCLA was ranked among the most recommended hospitals for neurosurgery, mystery diagnoses and eye care, through UCLA's Jules Stein Eye Institute, for extremely difficult cases. Dr. John Glaspy, professor of hematology/oncology at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted. The news was also noted March 25 by WestsideToday.com.

“The Right Hospital for You”

[http://www.aarpmagazine.org/health/right\\_hospital\\_for\\_you.html?x=86&y=51](http://www.aarpmagazine.org/health/right_hospital_for_you.html?x=86&y=51)

“Ronald Reagan; Named One of the Best of the West”

<http://www.westsidetoday.com/m2-657/ronald-reagan-named-one.html>

### **O.C. Register, Extra Spotlight Camp Del Corazon**

The Orange County Register and Extra TV ran March 26 stories on Camp Del Corazon, a free summer camp on Catalina Island for kids with heart ailments. The camp was founded by Dr. Kevin Shannon, associate professor of pediatric cardiology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, and Lisa Knight, UCLA cardiology nurse. Campers made cameo appearances in the March 26 episode of NBC's “E.R.”

“Gibby, from 'Icarly,' has a Real Heart”

<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/camp-kids-heart-2345970-logan-noah>

### **CBS Show Explores Latest in Medical Imaging**

Dr. Neil Martin, chair of neurosurgery, was featured March 23 by CBS' “The Doctors” about the latest high-tech advances in medical imaging and its implications for patient care. The segment aired locally on KCAL-Channel 9.

“Secrets to Living Longer”

[http://www.thedoctorstv.com/main/show\\_page/174](http://www.thedoctorstv.com/main/show_page/174)

### **Elle Highlights Dermatology Experts**

The April issue of Elle magazine featured two UCLA dermatologists who earned 2009 Elle Genius Awards for skincare. Dr. Howard Murad, associate clinical professor of dermatology, received the designation for his holistic approach to treating cellulite, and Dr. Frederick Beddingfield, assistant clinical professor of dermatology, achieved the distinction for his work in anti-aging skin treatments.

### **UPI Cites New Treatment for Epilepsy**

The research of Christopher DeGiorgio, professor of neurology, was featured in a March 23 United Press International story. He found that a unique nerve-stimulation device, or "brain pacemaker," reduced seizures in patients with intractable epilepsy by more than 50 percent.

"New Treatment for Epilepsy Found Effective"

[http://www.upi.com/Science\\_News/2009/03/23/New\\_treatment\\_for\\_epilepsy\\_found\\_effective/UPI-19991237835238/](http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2009/03/23/New_treatment_for_epilepsy_found_effective/UPI-19991237835238/)

### **HealthDay Covers Cardiovascular Risk Factors**

A March 24 HealthDay News story cited Dr. Jonathan Tobis, clinical professor of medicine and director of interventional cardiology research, and Dr. Alice Perlowski, a resident physician in cardiology, in a story on a cardiovascular risk factor study. Both authored an editorial that accompanied the research in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

"Lowest Blood Pressure, Cholesterol Levels the Best"

<http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=625300>

### **New American Media Examines Seniors' Finances**

Steven Wallace, associate director of the Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health, was featured in a March 19 New American Media article showing that many California seniors who live alone lack sufficient income to meet the basic costs of living.

"Ethnic Elders Find it Harder to Make Ends Meet"

[http://news.ncmonline.com/news/view\\_article.html?article\\_id=d2d55d0299fb3115bc2e7d293e9313c0](http://news.ncmonline.com/news/view_article.html?article_id=d2d55d0299fb3115bc2e7d293e9313c0)

### **Jewish Journal Highlights Oncology Research**

Dr. J. Randolph Hecht, professor of clinical medicine, and Dr. Edward Garon, assistant professor of hematology/oncology, discussed their work to improve the prevention, detection and treatment of pancreatic cancer in the March 10 Jewish Journal. Both are members of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

"Pancreatic Cancer Studies Hopeful, But Funding Lags"

[http://www.jewishjournal.com/health\\_and\\_fitness/article/pancreatic\\_cancer\\_studies\\_hopeful\\_but\\_funding\\_lags\\_20090310/](http://www.jewishjournal.com/health_and_fitness/article/pancreatic_cancer_studies_hopeful_but_funding_lags_20090310/)

### **Local TV Features Antioxidants in Broccoli**

CBS affiliate-WJHL-TV, which airs in Tennessee and Virginia, reported March 25 on research by UCLA scientists indicating that an antioxidant found in broccoli and other cruciferous vegetables may help prevent inflammation that leads to respiratory conditions like asthma.

### **Web Sites Explore Racial Disparities in Cancer**

The March 20 Examiner.com and March 23 Science Codex ran stories on new research by Dr. Mitchell Wong, associate professor of general internal medicine and health services research. He blamed disparities in cancer survival rates between blacks and whites on blacks being more likely to develop cancer in the first place. He also found that African American men live 1.47 fewer years than white men, and African American women 0.91 fewer years than white women. The study was published in the Journal of General Internal Medicine.

"African Americans Get More Cancer"

<http://www.examiner.com/x-4592-Birmingham-Family-Health-Examiner~y2009m3d20-African-Americans-get-more-cancer>

"Blacks Have Higher Cancer Mortality Because They Are More Likely To Get Cancer"

[http://www.sciencecodex.com/blacks\\_have\\_higher\\_cancer\\_mortality\\_because\\_they\\_are\\_more\\_likely\\_to\\_get\\_cancer](http://www.sciencecodex.com/blacks_have_higher_cancer_mortality_because_they_are_more_likely_to_get_cancer)

### **Trade Highlights New Hospital's Technology**

The March edition of "For the Record," a health information trade publication, featured the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center's evidenced-based technology, which was chosen to improve patient care and workflow. Archie Galbraith, interim chief information officer, was quoted.

"New UCLA Center Focuses on HIT"

[http://www.fortherecordmag.com/enews\\_0309\\_01.shtml](http://www.fortherecordmag.com/enews_0309_01.shtml)

### **Oncology Times Spotlights Cancer Survivorship Project**

Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of cancer prevention and control research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, talks about the Journey Forward cancer survivorship project in the March 10 issue of Oncology Times and on Nurse.com.

### **Las Vegas Sun Focuses on Parents and Teen Obesity**

An article in the March 26 Las Vegas Sun about teen obesity highlights a study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research showing that parents' diets significantly influence teens' eating choices.

"Teen Obesity, Use of Surgery as Treatment, Growing"

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2009/mar/26/teen-obesity-use-surgery-treatment-rise/>

### **BRIEFS**

The research of Andrew Barnes, a graduate student in the School of Public Health, that estimated the economic downturn's effect on alcohol consumption, was cited March 23 by the Los Angeles Times.

"Addictions Rise and Fall"

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-hew-econaddictions23-2009mar23,0,3512674.story>

The March 19 Acorn Newspaper (Thousand Oaks) ran a calendar brief about a series of free programs presented by UCLA experts on the latest medical options and health impact of weight loss surgery.

"UCLA Offers Seminars on Losing Weight"

[http://www.toacorn.com/news/2009/0319/health\\_and\\_wellness/065.html](http://www.toacorn.com/news/2009/0319/health_and_wellness/065.html)

The March 26 St. Petersburg Times (FL) cited the UCLA Center on Aging for creating the five-week memory training courses taught locally to seniors and baby boomers to help exercise the brain.

"Exercise Your Brain to Keep Your Memory Sharp"

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/health/article987048.ece>

The March 25 Westside Today included registration information about the 10<sup>th</sup> annual UCLA 5K Run/Walk. The April 5 event will be hosted by actress Dakota Fanning and proceeds will benefit Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA.

"Walk With Dakota Fanning"

<http://www.westsidetoday.com/m5-658/walk-with-dakota-fanning.html>

The March 26 LA Watts Times and KKLA FM on March 23 ran items on the third annual Cancer Survivor Education Day, sponsored by UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center.

"UCLA Hosts Third Annual Cancer Survivor Education Day"

<http://www.lawattstimes.com/health-mainmenu-53/592-the-pulse.html>

<http://www.kkla.com/events/default.aspx?id=17416>

### **QUOTABLES**

Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of cancer prevention and control research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, commented on "chemo brain" in a story in the March 24 issue of the NCI Cancer Bulletin.

"Delving into Possible Mechanisms for Chemobrain"

<http://www.cancer.gov/ncicancerbulletin/032409/page8>

Fernando Gómez-Pinilla, UCLA professor of neurosurgery and physiological science, was quoted March 26 in a Memphis Commercial Appeal article about foods that boost brain function.

"Heads-up on Healthy Brain Diet"

<http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2009/mar/26/heads-up-on-healthy-brain-diet/>

Dr. Mark Litwin, professor of urology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted March 23 by the Los Angeles Times about screenings for prostate cancer. "When Early Screening Carries Risks"

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-closer23-2009mar23,0,1042900.story>

Dr. William Parker, clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology and former staff gynecologist at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted March 20 in a CNN.com article about unnecessary surgeries.

"5 Operations You Don't Want to Get – and What to Do Instead"

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/HEALTH/03/20/healthmag.surgery/>

Dr. Bennett Roth, clinical professor of digestive diseases, commented in the March 24 issues of the San Gabriel Valley Tribune and San Bernardino Sun about the causes and prevention of ulcers.

"Research Gets Handle on Cause of Peptic Ulcers"

[http://www.sgvtribune.com/living/ci\\_11987965](http://www.sgvtribune.com/living/ci_11987965)

"Research Gets Handle on Cause of Peptic Ulcers"

[http://www.sbsun.com/living/ci\\_11987965](http://www.sbsun.com/living/ci_11987965)

Dr. Nina Shapiro, associate professor of pediatric otolaryngology, commented March 24 on a Seven Australia News segment about the health hazards of a new trend: teens grind up Smarties candies, inhale the dust and then exhale to give the appearance of smoking.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor at the Semel Institute, commented March 16 in Woman's Day.com about social networks like "Facebook" boosting well-being by helping people stay connected. He was also quoted March 24 by HealthDay News about a new report suggesting that Alzheimer's patients cost Medicare three times more than patients without the disease.

"How Facebook Can Boost Your Wellbeing"

<http://www.womansday.com/Articles/Health/How-Facebook-Can-Boost-Your-Well-Being.html>

"With Alzheimer's, Health-Care Costs Could Triple"

<http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=625350>

Dr. Eric Vilain, chief of medical genetics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented March 23 in a Los Angeles Times "Unreal World" column exploring the accuracy of a "House" TV episode featuring a child born with ambiguous genitalia.

"Multiple Organ Failure, Skin Problem Have Other Causes on 'House' "

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-unreal-23-2009mar23,0,4430055.column>

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