



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT  
For the week of April 1 – 7, 2011**

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**N.Y. Times, AP Examine Health of Aging Gays, Lesbians**

Steven Wallace, associate director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health, was featured in an April 1 New York Times article about how aging lesbian, gay and bisexual Californians are more likely than their heterosexual counterparts to suffer from chronic health conditions and to live alone. He was also quoted in the April 6 Ventura County Star. A March 31 Associated Press story also covered the research.

"Disparities: Illness More Prevalent Among Older Gay Adults"

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/05/health/research/05gay.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/05/health/research/05gay.html?_r=1)

"Older Gay Men Likely to Live Alone and Suffer Health Problems"

<http://www.vcstar.com/news/2011/apr/06/older-gay-men-more-likely-to-live-alone-and/>

"Report: Study of Gay, Transgender Health Needed"

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hICTs94EsQdofaNjJ5cwZLI5\\_ejA?docId=919b91c838f542bdb9fbfab6512c0da4](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hICTs94EsQdofaNjJ5cwZLI5_ejA?docId=919b91c838f542bdb9fbfab6512c0da4)

**JAMA News Covers Stroke Study**

The April 6 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association covered a study finding that most acute stroke patients do not receive clot-busting treatment within an hour of arriving at the hospital, despite proven benefits and national guideline recommendations. Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center was quoted.

“Reducing Door-to-Needle Time for tPA Use Remains an Elusive Goal in Stroke Care”

<http://jama.ama-assn.org/content/305/13/1288.full>

### **Science Magazine Notes Opening of Lab Safety Center**

A March 31 column in Science highlighted the establishment at UCLA of the UC Center for Laboratory Safety, which will conduct research on lab safety and facilitate the translation of results into best practices at UCLA and other institutions. Nancy Wayne, associate vice chancellor for research and professor of physiology, was quoted.

“UCLA Establishes Center to Study Lab Safety”

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/sciencecareers/2011/03/ucla-establishes.html>

### **Medscape Runs Column by Aging Expert**

Medscape published an article about the Alzheimer’s gene APOE-4 by Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Center on Aging.

“APOE Variants”

<http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/1787482-overview>

### **UPI, Examiner Link Heart Therapies Adherence, Lower Death Risk**

United Press International and Examiner.com reported April 5, and ThirdAge.com reported April 6 on a study by Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center. His team found that adherence to national guideline–recommended therapies for heart failure in outpatient settings significantly lowered patients’ mortality rates. The study appeared online April 4 in the journal Circulation.

“Heart Failure Therapies Lower Death Risk”

[http://www.upi.com/Health\\_News/2011/04/05/Heart-failure-therapies-lower-death-risk/UPI-81501302059029/](http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2011/04/05/Heart-failure-therapies-lower-death-risk/UPI-81501302059029/)

“Heart Failure Therapies Lower Death Risk, Study Says”

[http://www.thirdage.com/news/heart-failure-therapies-lower-death-risk-study-says\\_4-6-2011](http://www.thirdage.com/news/heart-failure-therapies-lower-death-risk-study-says_4-6-2011)

“UCLA Announces Guidelines to Improve Survival of Heart Failure Patients”

<http://www.examiner.com/health-in-los-angeles/ucla-announces-guidelines-to-improve-survival-of-heart-failure-patients>

### **Chronicle of Higher Ed Explores Controversy**

James Enstrom, a researcher at the School of Public Health, was featured in an April 1 Chronicle of Higher Education blog that highlighted a disagreement over academic research on the impact of air pollution on human health.

“The Smog of Reprisal”

<http://chronicle.com/blogs/innovations/the-smog-of-reprisal/29054>

### **Anesthesiology Trade Highlights Hand Transplant Surgery**

Becker’s ASC Review, a trade publication for anesthesiologists, reported April 1 on the role of the anesthesiology team in the first hand-transplant surgery at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. The article linked to a summary written by Dr. *Neesa Patel*, assistant professor of anesthesiology, and cited Dr. *Bitu Zadeh*, assistant professor of anesthesiology, and Dr. *Randolph Steadman*, professor of anesthesiology.

“UCLA Anesthesiology Team Plays Integral Role in West Coast’s First Hand Transplant”

<http://www.beckersasc.com/anesthesia/ucla-anesthesiology-team-plays-integral-role-in-west-coasts-first-hand-transplant.html>

### **Pediatrician’s Medical Mission to Japan Showcased**

Diverse Issues in Higher Education reported April 6 on the humanitarian work of Dr. Kozue Shimabukuro, a pediatric critical care doctor at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA. Instead of visiting her family in Okinawa, she joined a disaster relief team of pediatricians in Japan on a three-week stay after the country's earthquake and tsunami.

"Asian-American Pediatrician Assists in Continuing Relief Efforts in Japan"

<http://diverseeducation.com/article/15001/>

### **Column Weighs Pros, Cons of Pulling Wisdom Teeth**

The Los Angeles Daily News and Pasadena Star-News ran an April 2 column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine, division of infectious diseases, about the pros and cons of extracting impacted wisdom teeth.

"Infection Files: Pros and Cons of Pulling Wisdom Teeth"

[http://www.dailynews.com/ci\\_17760662?source=email](http://www.dailynews.com/ci_17760662?source=email)

### **Local Papers Profile "Brain Bee" Winner**

The Santa Barbara Independent and Coastal Valley News (Carpinteria) reported April 6 on Thanh-Liem Huynh-Tran, who won the local and national Brain Bee competitions. The neuroscience contest tests high school students' knowledge and comprehension of brain facts and principles. Huynh-Tran next will compete in an international contest in Italy. Co-sponsored by the UCLA Brain Research Institute and USC, the contest aims to encourage interest in the brain and promote careers in biomedical research.

"Brain Boy"

<http://www.independent.com/news/2011/apr/06/brain-boy/>

"Cate Student Named National Brain Bee Champion"

<http://content.yudu.com/Library/A1rqvm/CarpinteriaCoastalVi/resources/index.htm?referrerUrl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.yudu.com%2Fitem%2Fdetails%2F315283%2FCarpinteria-Coastal-View-Newspaper>

### **Podiatry Website Spotlights Faculty Award**

Podiatry Management News reported April 2 on Dr. Lester Jones, a clinical professor of surgery at the Veteran Affairs Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, Olive-View UCLA Medical Center and David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He received an award of excellence from the American Podiatric Medical Association in recognition of outstanding national accomplishments in the field.

"CA Podiatrist Receives APMA Award of Excellence"

<http://www.podiatrym.com/news2.cfm?id=43197&start=1>

## **BRIEFS**

The pediatric pain program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was referenced March 30 in an Orange County Register story about a local teenager. She was treated at UCLA for a pain condition called reflexive sympathetic dystrophy and helped raise funds for the program.

"Laguna Hills Teen Plans Fashion Show to Stomp out RSD"

<http://www.ocregister.com/news/shira-294338-pain-academy.html>

Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center's rape treatment center and its founding director, Gail Abarbanel, were cited April 1 by Fox Business.com in a story on actor David Schwimmer's new film about sexual predators. Schwimmer is a RTC board member.

"Shades of 'Trust': Shining a Light on Sexual Predators"

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/personal-finance/2011/04/01/shades-trust-shining-light-sex-predators/>

The Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was cited as the top-ranking hospital in the Los Angeles metropolitan area in an April 4 Long Beach Press-Telegram story.

"Los Amigos is Area Leader"

[http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci\\_17772690](http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci_17772690)

## **QUOTABLES**

Dr. David Baron, a family physician at Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center, commented April 7 on KNX1070 AM about a study on unreported hospital medical errors.

Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, medical director of the kidney and pancreas transplant program, was quoted April 6 in a Los Angeles Times story about the USC kidney transplant program resuming operations.

“USC to Resume Kidney Transplants in Wake of Mix-Up”

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-0406-usckidney-20110406,0,7073174.story>

Dr. David Feinberg, CEO and associate vice chancellor of the UCLA Hospital System, was quoted in an April 4 Los Angeles Business Journal article on USC’s Keck School of Medicine’s expansion to the Westside.

“USC Medical School Looks to Operate on Westside”

<http://www.labusinessjournal.com/news/2011/apr/04/usc-medical-school-looks-operate-westside/>

Dr. F. Michael Ferrante, director of UCLA’s pain management center and clinical professor of anesthesiology and medicine, commented April 4 in two Los Angeles Times articles about the difficulties of diagnosing and treating back pain.

“Finding the Source of that Aching Back”

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-back-pain-diagnosis-20110404,0,6582364.story>

“Back Pain is a Complicated Issue”

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-back-pain-20110404,0,4021531.story>

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented April 4 in a HealthDay News story about how longer work days may contribute to cardiovascular risk. He was also quoted in a second story about research finding that bypass surgery was more beneficial than medical therapy alone for some heart failure patients. Fonarow also commented April 2 in a HealthDay story about a possible link between antidepressants and cardiovascular disease. Finally, he commented in an April 7 Medscape story about research demonstrating that treating irregular heartbeats in patients can improve their spouses’ quality of life, too.

“Too Many Hours at Work Might Harm the Heart”

<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=651527>

“Bypass Surgery Best for Some Heart Failure Patients”

<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=651596>

“Study Hints at Link between Antidepressants and Heart Trouble”

<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=651536>

“ACC: Treating Afib Improves Life for Spouse Too”

<http://www.medpagetoday.com/MeetingCoverage/ACC/25781>

Nelson Freimer, professor of psychiatry and director of UCLA’s center for neurobehavioral genetics, was quoted in the April 3 New York Times about an Alzheimer’s study that discovered five genes offering new clues to why the disease strikes and how it progresses.

“Vast Gene Study Yields Insights on Alzheimer’s”

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/04/health/04alzheimer.html?\\_r=1&hpw](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/04/health/04alzheimer.html?_r=1&hpw)

Dr. Calvin Hobel, professor of obstetrics /gynecology and pediatrics, was quoted March 4 in an LA Weekly article on the National Children’s Study which aims to learn more about the causes behind major childhood diseases.

“National Children’s Study Seeks to Change Lives, But Will L.A. Politicians Take Notice?”

[http://blogs.laweekly.com/informer/2011/04/national\\_childrens\\_health\\_stud.php](http://blogs.laweekly.com/informer/2011/04/national_childrens_health_stud.php)

Dr. Henry Kawamoto, professor of plastic surgery, commented March 31 on ABCNews.com about a woman who sued her surgeon after undergoing a cosmetic surgery procedure.

“New Jersey Woman Sues, Can’t Fully Blink After Eyelid Surgery”

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/nj-woman-close-eyes-sues-plastic-surgeon/story?id=13259843&page=1>

Gerald Kominski, associate director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and a professor at the School of Public Health, was quoted April 4 by the San Francisco Chronicle about a survey of Californians' attitudes toward the health care reform law.

"Poll on Health Care Law: 52% in Calif. Optimistic"

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/04/04/MN3T1IOESJ.DTL>

Shana Alex Lavarreda, director of health insurance studies for the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted in an April 5 Modesto Bee article about a Stanislaus County-sponsored health care program for low-income residents.

"Stanislaus Indigent Health Plan is Changed"

<http://www.modbee.com/2011/04/05/1631911/indigent-health-plan-is-changed.html>

William McBride, professor of radiation oncology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted April 3 in a Los Angeles Times article about some Americans' attempts to protect themselves from potential radiation from Japan.

"Radiation from Japan is No Reason to Load up on Supplements, Health Experts Say"

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-radiation-foods-20110403,0,7984992.story>

Dr. John Sharp, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry (voluntary) at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an April 4 USA Today article about how emotional awareness can contribute to better physical health.

"Emotions Show our True Colors"

<http://yourlife.usatoday.com/parenting-family/story/2011/04/Emotions-show-our-true-colors/45724624/1>

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry with the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Center on Aging, commented April 4 on ABCNews.com about five newly discovered genes offering clues to why the disease strikes and how it progresses.

"Scientists Discover New Alzheimer's Disease Risk Genes"

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/AlzheimersNews/alzheimers-disease-scientists-discover-genes-drug-targets/story?id=13273618&page=1>

Susan Smalley, professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center, was quoted in an April 5 Sciencenews.com article about the health impacts of meditation using controlled, clinical-style studies.

"Meditators can Concentrate the Hurt Away"

[http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/72220/title/Meditators\\_can\\_concentrate\\_the\\_hurt\\_away](http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/72220/title/Meditators_can_concentrate_the_hurt_away)

Dr. Karol Watson, associate professor of clinical medicine, division of cardiology, commented in the April 11 issue of Women's World about strategies for improving levels of "good" HDL cholesterol.

Dr. Barry Weissman, professor of ophthalmology at the Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA, was quoted April 1 in the New York Times about presbyopia, the declining ability to focus on close objects as we age.

"Presbyopia and How to Fix It"

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/02/health/02patient.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/02/health/02patient.html?_r=1)

Dr. Lonnie Zeltzer, director of the pediatric pain program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented April 4 in a Reuters Health report about the need for improved pain treatment in children.

"Children's Pain in Hospital Undertreated: Study"

<http://wtg.com/news/articles/2011/apr/04/childrens-pain-in-hospital-undertreated-study/>

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