



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT For the week of April 2 - 8, 2010

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“Today” Show Chronicles Cancer Patient’s Rare Meeting with Blood Platelet Donors

USA Today, Macworld Profile Young Patient’s iPhone App Creation

ABC News, KABC-7 Cover First Custom Artificial Iris Transplant at UCLA

Popular Science Explores Novel Vest that Helps Patients Regain Balance

Scientific American Reports on Broad Spectrum Antivirals

Founder of Jonsson Cancer Center Dies at 79

KTLA Reports on Safest Place to Weather an Earthquake

LA Times Updates Condition of Marathon Runner

Local Paper Publishes Anesthesiologist’s Account of Haiti Relief Mission

ABC Affiliate in Wisconsin Examines New Treatment for MS

Q&A Covers Black Women’s Sexuality

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“Today” Show Chronicles Cancer Patient’s Rare Meeting with Blood Platelet Donors

NBC’s “Today” show aired an April 2 story about a single mom with leukemia who was the first Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center patient to meet 11 of the 17 people who donated 93 units of blood platelets at the UCLA Blood and Platelet Center to save her life during cancer treatment. The story also aired on NBC affiliates in Illinois, Iowa and West Virginia.

“Woman Meets 11 Blood Donors who Saved Her Life”

http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/36147225/ns/today-today_people/

USA Today, Macworld Profile Young Patient’s iPhone App Creation

USA Today reported April 8 on a 12-year-old boy who created the iPhone application, iSketch, during his recovery from surgery for a benign leg tumor at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital. He donated \$20,000 from the proceeds to purchase electronic items and games for other hospitalized kids. Amy Bullock, director of the Department of Child Life/Child Development Services at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, was quoted. Macworld also reviewed the app, and its article appeared April 6 in Business Week.

“Young Patient Draws Up iSketch App to Help Others”

http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2010-04-07-isketch-iphone_N.htm

"iSketch for iPhone"

<http://www.businessweek.com/idg/2010-04-06/isketch-for-iphone.html>

ABC News, KABC-7 Cover First Custom Artificial Iris Transplant at UCLA

ABCnews.com reported April 7 and KABC-Channel 7 reported April 1 on an Oklahoma man who was the first to undergo a custom artificial iris implant at the Jules Stein Eye Institute. The surgical prosthetic repaired a 27-year-old injury that left his pupil fully dilated and unprotected from glare and sunlight. Dr. Kevin Miller, Kolokotronis Professor of Ophthalmology, inserted an artificial iris matched to the color and shape of the patient's healthy eye. Miller was interviewed.

"Man's New Iris Implant Turns Black Eye Blue"

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/EyeHealth/iris-implant-turns-charlie-haversticks-black-eye-blue/story?id=10302265>

"UCLA Surgeons Recreate Part of a Human Eye"

http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health/your_health&id=7363255

Popular Science Explores Novel Vest that Helps Patients Regain Balance

Popular Science reported April 6 on the development of a vest that helps patients regain their balance as they learn to walk again after injury or disease. Martin Culjat, engineering research director for the UCLA Center for Advanced Surgical and Interventional Technology, was quoted. The research was presented at the 2010 Haptics Symposium. The story was also covered April 5 by IEEE Spectrum.

"Vest Uses Accelerometers and Balloons to Improve Wearer's Balance"

<http://www.popsci.com/science/article/2010-04/vest-uses-built-balloons-improve-wearers-balance>

"Vest Helps Keep Balance-Disorder Patients from Wobbling"

<http://spectrum.ieee.org/biomedical/devices/vest-helps-keep-balancedisorder-patients-from-wobbling/0>

Scientific American Reports on Broad Spectrum Antivirals

Scientific American.com ran a March 29 article on a multi-site UCLA study of a compound targeting a virus class that causes a host of deadly diseases, including AIDS and Ebola. Dr. Benhur Lee, associate professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics, was quoted. The findings were published Jan. 28 in the online edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

"Thinking on the Envelope: Finding a Medical 'Silver Bullet' to Disable Many of the World's Deadliest Viruses"

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=broad-spectrum-anti-viral>

Founder of Jonsson Cancer Center Dies at 79

The Los Angeles Times published an April 4 obituary on Kenneth Alan Jonsson, who with his wife founded and supported UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center. Jonsson died March 15 in his Pacific Palisades home.

"Kenneth Alan Jonsson Dies at 79; Co-founder of Cancer Center at UCLA"

<http://articles.latimes.com/2010/apr/04/local/la-me-kenneth-jonsson4-2010apr04>

KTLA Reports on Safest Place to Weather an Earthquake

Kimberley Shoaf, associate director of the Center for Public Health and Disasters at the School of Public Health, appeared in an April 5 KTLA-Channel 5 news report about where and how individuals should seek safety during an earthquake.

"Best and Worst Places to be in an Earthquake"

<http://www.ktla.com/videobeta/9b77b0da-571f-4dd0-bd44-c8232ad0433a/News/KTLA-Best-and-Worst-Places-to-Be-During-an-Earthquake-Lu-Parker-reports>

LA Times Updates Condition of Marathon Runner

The Los Angeles Times on April 5 provided an update on the recovery of a 21-year-old runner who suffered a heart attack during the Los Angeles Marathon and was treated at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Dr. Paul Vespa, professor of neurology and neurosurgery and director of UCLA's Neurointensive Care Unit, was quoted. Dr. Charles Chandler, UCLA clinical professor of surgery, was also cited.

“L.A. Marathon Heart Attack Victim Doing Better”

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-runner-20100405,0,4329939.story>

Local Paper Publishes Anesthesiologist’s Account of Haiti Relief Mission

The April 2 Santa Monica Daily Press published a first-person account by Dr. Bitia Zadeh, staff anesthesiologist at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, about her experiences as a member of the relief team for UCLA Operation Haiti.

“Trip to Haiti Provides Harsh Reality”

http://www.smdp.com/Articles-c-2010-04-02-69360.113116_First_person_Trip_to_Haiti_provides_harsh_reality.html

ABC Affiliate in Wisconsin Examines New Treatment for MS

Dr. Rhonda Voskuhl, professor of neurology and director of the Multiple Sclerosis Research and Treatment Program, appeared in a March 26 news segment by ABC-affiliate WXOW, (WI), about using the hormone estriol to treat multiple sclerosis.

Q&A Covers Black Women’s Sexuality

BlackAIDS.org ran a March 29 Q&A with Dr. Gail Wyatt, professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences and UCLA AIDS Institute associate director, on black women’s sexuality and her research on victims of abuse.

“Q&A: Dr. Gail Wyatt, Sex Therapist, Expert in Black Women’s Sexuality”

<http://blackaids.org/ShowArticle.aspx?pagename=ShowArticle&articletype=SITEFEATURE&articleid=810&pagenumber=1>

BRIEFS

A sequence of brain images created by Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, that shows the progression of Alzheimer’s disease, appeared in the April 7 Regina Leader-Post (Canada).

“Research Offers Hope for Patients”

<http://www.leaderpost.com/health/Research+offers+hope+patients/2771900/story.html>

The Chicago Tribune published a March 30 story about five Chicago-area altruistic donors who initiated a kidney transplant chain that may include a recipient at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center.

“5 Good Samaritans Start Chains of Life”

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/health/ct-met-kidney-transplant-20100330,0,2446777.story>

An April 2 SmartMoney.com story about senior citizens having a higher risk of disabling health problems cited a study by Teresa Seeman, professor of geriatrics. She was quoted.

“Disabilities Are Restricting More Retirees”

http://www.smartmoney.com/personal-finance/retirement/disabilities-are-restricting-more-retirees/?cid=1122&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+smartmoney%2Fheadlines+%28SmartMoney.com%29

The Argonaut noted April 1 that Barbara Browning, R.N., a 45-year employee of Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, will be honored by the American Red Cross’ Santa Monica chapter at its annual fundraiser on April 17.

“American Red Cross of Santa Monica to Hold ‘Red Tie Affair’ Fundraiser April 17 at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel”

http://www.argonautnewspaper.com/articles/2010/04/01/news_-_features/santa_monica/sm6.txt

Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA was cited in an April 7 Tonic interview with Lakers player Jordan Farmer about his volunteer efforts at the hospital.

“The NBA and Jordan Farmer Score Points for the Environment”

<http://www.tonic.com/article/nba-green-week-jordan-farmer-ethan-zohn/>

QUOTABLES

Dr. Alon Avidan, associate professor of neurology and associate director of the Sleep Disorders Center, was quoted in an April 6 Chicago Tribune article about REM sleep behavior disorder, in which sufferers act out their dreams while asleep.

"Sleep Disorders a Nightmare for Many"

http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2010-04-06/health/ct-met-sleep-disorder-20100405_1_sleep-rem-disorder

Anthony Butch, director of the UCLA Olympic Analytical Lab, explained the effects of the performance-enhancing drug primobolan in the online edition of Popular Mechanics.

"Alex Rodriguez's Drug of Choice: A Close Look at Primobolan and Its Effects"

<http://www.popularmechanics.com/outdoors/sports/news/4303395>

Reggie Edgerton, professor of neurobiology, commented April 7 on his mouse research finding that the capability to take steps remains after severe spinal cord injury in stories airing on the CBS affiliate WTVY (AL), NBC affiliate WBBH (FL) and ABC affiliate KOTA (SD).

Sally Frautschy, associate professor of neurology, was quoted in an April 6 Examiner.com article about the potential health benefits of curcumin, a spice found in many Indian foods.

"Culver City Dining: Indian Restaurants have a Spice that Can Help Prevent Alzheimer's"

<http://www.examiner.com/x-7315-Culver-City-Restaurant-Examiner-y2010m4d6-Culver-City-Dining-Indian-restaurants-have-a-spice-that-can-help-prevent-Alzheimers>

Dr. David Heber, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, commented April 5 in a Los Angeles Times article about foods that claim to lower cholesterol.

"It Takes More than Breakfast to Lower Cholesterol"

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-nutrition-20100405,0,585297.story>

Dr. Zhaoping Li, clinical professor of medicine, commented April 1 in a Los Angeles Daily Breeze article about the importance of daily fluid intake for health.

"You Are What You Drink"

http://www.dailybreeze.com/ci_14794375

Dr. Mark Litwin, a professor of urology and public health and health services and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, commented March 31 on NBC Nightly News about drugs designed to decrease the risk of prostate cancer.

John Luo, an associate clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an April 3 Los Angeles Times article about the potential medical uses for the Apple iPad.

"Doctors Diagnose the iPad's usefulness: Vital Signs Looking Good"

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/technology/2010/04/ipad-doctors.html>

Dr. Christopher Saigal, associate professor of urology, commented April 7 in an MSNBC blog article about various penis-related ailments.

"Pearly Papules and other Penis Problems"

<http://bodyodd.msnbc.msn.com/archive/2010/04/07/2260160.aspx>

Dr. Jeffrey Saver, professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Stroke Center, was cited in an April 6 Medscape article about the administering of tissue plasminogen activator to patients with conditions that mimic stroke.

"Thrombolytic Therapy Appears Safe Even in Stroke Mimics"

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/719844>

Dr. A. Nick Shamie, orthopaedic spine surgeon at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted in an April 2 WebMD story about managing back pain.

“How to Wreck Your Back”

<http://www.webmd.com/back-pain/features/how-to-wreck-your-back>

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