



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT  
For the week of April 5-11, 2013**

Note: Website links may expire without notice. Some sites require password registration. If you cannot access a story or would like to obtain a copy, please call 310.794.0777.

---

**Brain Imaging IDs Cognitive Decline**

**UCLA Study Linking Auto Pollution with Childhood Cancers Receives Wide Coverage**

**Online Media Report New Breast Cancer Drug Designated “Breakthrough” by FDA**

**NY Radio Station Covers Wireless Technology and the Brain**

**California Healthline Spotlights the International Medical Graduate Program**

**A Cure for Meth Addiction?**

**Healing One Patient at a Time**

**Over 200 UCLA Docs Named to ‘Best’ List**

**Scientific American Looks at Retail Clinics and Hospital Readmission**

**Quality Improvement at UCLA Health System**

**UCLA Health and Physician Networks**

**Examiner.com Highlights Award-Winning UCLA Cancer Researcher**

**NY Times Examines Exercise and Sleep**

**NBC Notes Death of Annette Funicello and Link to MS**

**Expectant Moms on Bed Rest Benefit from Unique Support Group in Santa Monica**

**UCLA Ob-Gyn Featured on Good Morning America**

**Cutting Edge NICU Transport System**

**Help for Flat Feet**

**Growth Hormone Helps Dialysis Patients**

**Factors Leading to Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery**

**Auction to Benefit UCLA Children’s Hospital**

**Expanding Dental Care in the Community**

## BRIEFS

## QUOTABLES

---

### **Brain Imaging IDs Cognitive Decline**

[Asian News International](#), [Business Standard](#), [Psych Central](#) and [The Indian Express](#) April 7; [Domain-b](#) April 8; [Scope Medicine](#), [Radiology Today](#), [Third Age](#) and [News Medical](#) April 4; [Device Space](#), [Examiner.com](#), [MDLinx](#), [Science Daily](#), [Science Newsline](#), [E Science News](#) and [Medical Express](#) April 3 reported on a study using a brain-imaging tool developed at UCLA and a stroke risk assessment to identify signs of cognitive decline early on in individuals who don't yet show signs of dementia. Study authors Dr. David Merrill, an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, and Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, were quoted. The Asian News International story appeared on [Sify](#).

### **UCLA Study Linking Auto Pollution with Childhood Cancers Receives Wide Coverage**

[KCAL-Channel 9/KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [KTTV-Channel 11](#), [WUSA-TV \(D.C.\)](#), the [Los Angeles Times](#), [The Huffington Post](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Vox 6 News](#), [EmpowerHer.com](#), and others reported April 9 on a UCLA study led by Julia Heck, member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and assistant professor at the Fielding School of Public Health, and Dr. Beate Ritz, chair and professor of epidemiology at the Fielding School of Public Health and also a JCCC member, that found a possible link between exposure to pollution during pregnancy and several rare childhood cancers.

### **Online Media Report New Breast Cancer Drug Designated "Breakthrough" by FDA**

[Examiner.com](#), [Oncology Times](#), and [Topix](#) April 11 reported on the FDA's "Breakthrough Therapy" designation for palbociclib, a drug for advanced breast cancer that has been investigated extensively at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center (JCCC). Dr. Dennis Slamon, professor of medicine at JCCC and director of the Revlon/UCLA Women's Cancer Research Program, and Dr. Richard S. Finn, associate professor of medicine at JCCC, were quoted in the coverage.

### **NY Radio Station Covers Wireless Technology and the Brain**

Dr. Gary Small, the Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, was interviewed April 8 on New York's [WOR 710AM](#) about the potential social and neurological effects of wireless technology on children.

### **California Healthline Spotlights the International Medical Graduate Program**

[California Healthline](#) April 5 reported on the UCLA International Medical Graduate (IMG) program, which assists bi-lingual, bi-cultural immigrant medical school graduates from Latin America, who reside in the U.S. legally, to earn their California medical licenses and obtain residencies in family medicine. The UCLA program is privately funded and covers all educational costs and includes a stipend. In exchange, the IMG physician must commit to practice in one of the state's more than 500 underserved communities for two to three years after completing their three year family medicine residency. The IMG program was co-founded by Dr. Michelle Bholat, vice-chair of the UCLA Department of Family Medicine, who is the program's executive director. She co-founded the program with Dr. Patrick Dowling, chair of the department.

### **A Cure for Meth Addiction?**

[Raw Story](#) and [KDAF-TV](#) (Dallas) April 8, [KTTV-Channel 11](#) April 6 and [WND.com](#) April 5 reported on a clinical trial led by Dr. Aimee-Noelle Swanson, research director of the UCLA Center for Behavioral and Addiction Medicine, testing an experimental new drug for methamphetamine addiction.

### **Healing One Patient at a Time**

The April edition of [The Hospitalist](#) featured an interview with Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and associate vice chancellor, about his organizational strategies and patient-centered approach to health care.

### **Over 200 UCLA Docs Named to 'Best' List**

The April 4 [Beverly Hills Courier](#) reported that more than 200 UCLA physicians have been named to the "Best Doctors in America" list, which is compiled every two years by Boston-based Best Doctors Inc. and identifies the best trained, most experienced and most skilled specialists, regardless of where they practice. Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and associate vice chancellor, was quoted.

### **Scientific American Looks at Retail Clinics and Hospital Readmission**

An April 9 article in [Scientific American](#) about strategies hospitals are using to reduce readmission rates among patients highlighted a partnership between the UCLA Health System and CVS under which UCLA physicians serve as medical directors for 11 clinics at CVS pharmacy stores in Los Angeles County. Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and associate vice chancellor, was quoted.

### **Quality Improvement at UCLA Health System**

The April 9 [Becker's Hospital Review](#) featured an interview with Dr. Nasim Afsar-manesh, associate chief medical officer of UCLA Hospitals and executive director of quality and safety in the departments of medicine and neurosurgery, about innovative strategies UCLA hospital leaders are using to improve safety and quality, and ways the system teaches quality-improvement techniques.

### **UCLA Health and Physician Networks**

A column in the April 6 [Ventura County Star](#) featured the UCLA Health System's recent expansion efforts in Southern California, including the opening of a new clinic in Thousand Oaks and plans for additional clinics in the Conejo Valley, Porter Ranch, Santa Clarita and Calabasas. The column was also picked up April 8 by [California Healthline](#).

### **Examiner.com Highlights Award-Winning UCLA Cancer Researcher**

[Examiner.com](#) April 10 reported that Dr. Roger S. Lo, a member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and assistant professor of medicine in the divisions of dermatology and molecular and medical pharmacology, received the 33rd Annual American Association of Cancer Research (AACR) Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cancer Research at the AACR Annual Meeting 2013 held in Washington, DC.

### **NY Times Examines Exercise and Sleep**

Christopher Cowell, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in an April 9 [New York Times](#) health column about whether engaging in light exercise before going to bed is a good thing. For most people, it is, Colwell reported.

### **NBC Notes Death of Annette Funicello and Link to MS**

Dr. Rhonda Voskuhl, professor of neurology and director of the Multiple Sclerosis Research and Treatment Program, was featured in an April 8 [NBC Today.com](#) article about the death of actress Annette Funicello, who died of complications from multiple sclerosis. Voskuhl noted that MS does not directly shorten the lifespan, but people who have had a very severe form for a long time can develop the same complications that anyone has who is immobilized.

### **Expectant Moms on Bed Rest Benefit from Unique Support Group in Santa Monica**

An April 3 report on [KCBS-Channel 2](#) featured an innovative support group for expectant moms on bed rest at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Katie Wheeler, social worker, and several moms-to-be who participate in the group, were interviewed.

### **UCLA Ob-Gyn Featured on Good Morning America**

Dr. Daniel Dumesic, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, appeared on ABC's [Good Morning America](#) April 10 for a story on celebrity moms having babies into their mid-40s.

### **Cutting Edge NICU Transport System**

The April issue of [Waypoint AirMed and Rescue](#) magazine featured a story on a new neonatal intensive care unit isolette system co-developed by the transfer team from Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA. The mobile NICU device can be used on different modes of transport seamlessly and aids in the smooth and safe transfer of neonatal patients from other hospitals to UCLA. Dr. Robert Kelly, assistant clinical professor of pediatric intensive care and associate director of the transport program, was quoted.

### **Help for Flat Feet**

[KNBC-Channel 4](#) reported April 5 on a minimally invasive procedure that helps kids with flat feet whose condition has not responded to other types of treatment. Dr. Robert Lee, clinical instructor of podiatry, was interviewed.

### **Growth Hormone Helps Dialysis Patients**

[Ivanhoe News](#), [HealthDay News](#) and [Med Page Today](#) April 5 and [Medscape](#) April 10 reported on research led by Dr. Katherine Wesseling-Perry, assistant professor of pediatrics; Dr. Justine Bacchetta, visiting assistant resident in pediatrics; and Dr. Isidro Salusky, professor of pediatric nephrology, showing that growth-hormone therapy helps pediatric patients on dialysis grow taller. Wesseling-Perry and Salusky were quoted in the coverage.

### **Factors Leading to Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery**

[Epilepsy.com](#) April 9 highlighted a recent study by researchers with Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA that looked at associations of clinical factors that led to surgical intervention to treat epilepsy in children.

### **Auction to Benefit UCLA Children's Hospital**

The [Los Angeles Times](#) reported April 9 that 10 custom dollhouses created by some of Los Angeles' best-known architects and design professionals will be auctioned off to raise money for the new UCLA Children's Discovery and Innovation Institute, part of Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA.

### **Expanding Dental Care in the Community**

[Examiner.com](#), [DentistryQ.com](#), [Southwest Riverside News Network](#), [KPCC 89.3FM](#), [DrBicuspid.com](#), [Westwood-CenturyCityPatch.com](#) April 4, and [California Healthline](#) April 5 reported that the UCLA School of Dentistry was awarded funding of more than \$11 million from the Los Angeles-based child advocacy and grant-making organization First 5 LA to expand access to dental care in Los Angeles. The funds will establish the UCLA-First 5 LA Children's Dental Care Program, which will support the delivery of care to children, from birth to age 5, and pregnant women in Los Angeles County over the next five years.

## **BRIEFS**

A study by Dr. Steven Cole, professor of medicine and psychiatry and a member of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology at the Semel Institute, was referenced in an April 8 [Huffington Post](#) column. The study found that mindful meditation helped seniors reduce feelings of loneliness and led to a decrease in the expression of genes linked to chronic inflammation.

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was cited April 10 in a [KNXV-Channel 15](#) (Phoenix) story on local identical twin boys who were treated at UCLA when they were infants for heart conditions and one of them received a heart transplant.

## **QUOTABLES**

Dr. Liana Apostolova, an associate clinical professor of neurology and a member of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research, was quoted in the April 9 [Los Angeles Times](#) about the death of Margaret Thatcher and the fact that Alzheimer's disease can make the brain's blood vessels more brittle, raising the risk that they could burst and cause a hemorrhagic stroke.

Susan Bookheimer, a professor of psychiatry who holds the Joaquin Fuster Chair in Cognitive Neurosciences at the Semel Institute, was quoted in the April 8 [Washington Post](#) about the White House's new brain-mapping initiative.

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](#) article that also ran on [WebMD](#), about Americans and high blood pressure. He was also quoted April 5 in a [HealthDay News](#) article that also ran on [Newsmax Health](#) and [WebMD](#) about research that found that brisk walking is as beneficial for the heart as running. In addition, he commented in an April 8 [HealthDay News](#) article that also ran on [WATE-TV](#) (Knoxville, TN) and [Philly.com](#) about research suggesting a drug used to treat heartbeat irregularities may increase the risk of cancer.

Dr. John Glaspy, professor of medicine at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted April 9 on [MesotheliomaHelp.net](#) in a report on the success of the Stand Up to Cancer Scientific Summit 2013.

Dr. V. Raman Muthusamy, associate clinical professor of medicine and director of interventional endoscopy, division of digestive diseases, commented in a March 25 report in [DOT Med Daily News](#), an online trade publication, about the latest innovations in endoscopy technologies.

Rory Reid, assistant professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an April 4 [WebMD](#) article about sex addiction.

Dylan Roby, director of the health economics and evaluation research program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in the Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in the April 6 [Ventura County Star](#) about how doctors who maintain an independent practice will have to adapt to the new healthcare climate to survive.

Jerome Siegel, professor of psychiatry and director of the Center for Sleep Research at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an April 5 [Time](#) article about an experimental new sleeping pill.

Dr. Karol Watson, associate professor of medicine in the division of cardiology, commented April 4 on [KNX 1070FM](#) regarding research on a possible link between baldness and cardiovascular disease risk.

=====

UCLA's Health Sciences Media Relations office e-publishes this report weekly. For more information, please call Roxanne Moster, director of Health Sciences Media Relations, or Enrique Rivero, senior media relations officer, at 310-794-0777. Our office also offers publicity for new research, medical breakthroughs, clinical trial recruitment, inspirational patient stories and more. To identify the appropriate public information officer for your department, visit [www.uclahealth.org/mediacontacts](http://www.uclahealth.org/mediacontacts).