



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT  
For the week of April 13 - 19, 2012**

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### **Media Investigate New Genes Tied to Higher IQ, Bigger Brains**

Research by UCLA scientists and international colleagues mapping human genes that correlate to a bigger brain and higher IQ was covered in 28 countries, including April 15 by the [New York Times](#), [Bloomberg](#), [Live Science](#), [HealthDay News](#), a [Los Angeles Times](#) blog, [Discover](#), [Yahoo! News](#) and Israel's [Haaretz](#); April 16 by [TIME](#), Britain's [Telegraph](#), [New Scientist](#), [WebMD](#), [CBS Radio](#), [The Atlantic Wire](#), Australia's [Gizmodo](#), New Zealand's [Top News](#), [Fox News](#), the [Huffington Post](#), [News-Medical Net](#), [24 Medica](#), [Asian News International](#) and [Agence France-Presse](#); April 17 by KPCC 89.3 FM's "[Madeline Brand Show](#)", Iran's [Press TV](#), [NewsTrack India](#), [Agenzia Giornalistica Italia](#), and the [French Tribune](#); and April 18 by [Medscape](#) and [PsychCentral](#). Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and member of the UCLA Laboratory of Neuro Imaging at the David Geffen School of Medicine, was quoted in the coverage. The April 15 edition of *Nature Genetics* published the findings.

### **HIV-Fighting Stem Cells Draw Headlines**

Research by Scott Kitchen, assistant professor of hematology and oncology, showing that genetically engineered human stem cells can attack HIV-infected cells in a living organism, was covered April 12 by [KNBC-Channel 4](#) and [InsiderMedicine.com](#); April 13 by [LA Weekly](#), the [Daily Mail](#), [The Advocate](#), [Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News](#), [International Business Times](#), [The Indian Express](#), [Medical Daily](#), [Medical News Today](#), [Dr. Tipster](#), [TG Daily](#), [ZeeNews.com](#) (India), [Gizmag](#), [Agenzia Giomalistica Italia](#); April 14 by [Deccan Chronicle](#) (India) and [On Top Magazine](#); April 15 by [Instinct Magazine](#) and [Asian News International](#); April 16 by the [Huffington Post](#), [KGO 810AM](#) (San Francisco); [Raw Story](#) and [Huliq.com](#); April 17 by [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KCAL-Channel 9](#) and [AIDS Response Effort](#); and April 18 by [KFWB 980AM](#). The KNBC report also appeared on [MSNBC.com](#) and other affiliates. The KCBS report also aired in other markets. Kitchen and coauthor Jerome Zack, an associate director of the UCLA AIDS Institute, were quoted.

### **NPR Explains Why Women Suffer More Migraines than Men**

Dr. Andrew Charles, professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Headache Research and Treatment Program, was featured April 16 in a National Public Radio "[Morning Edition](#)" segment about why women suffer more migraines than men, and his ongoing efforts to find a cure.

### **N.Y. Times Marks Passing of Former Public Health Dean**

The April 14 [New York Times](#) published an obituary about Dr. Lester Breslow, a former dean of the Fielding School of Public Health who was among the first to link healthy habits to longevity and quality of life.

### **KABC Explores Surgery to End Epileptic Seizures**

[KABC-Channel 7](#) reported April 16 on a study by Dr. Jerome Engel, professor of neurology, neurobiology and psychiatry and director of the UCLA Seizure Disorder Center, finding that early surgical intervention can help prevent seizures and improve quality of life in people with drug-resistant epilepsy. Engel was interviewed.

### **Voice of America Profiles Heart Surgeon**

[Voice of America's "Inside USA"](#) program, which highlights stories about people of Persian descent, aired an April 11 feature on Dr. Abbas Ardehali, professor of cardiothoracic surgery and surgical director of the UCLA Heart/Lung Transplant program.

### **Israeli Paper Features Heart-Failure Study**

The [Jerusalem Post](#) reported April 14 on an American Journal of Cardiology study finding that higher blood glucose levels may help improve survival rates in advanced heart failure patients with diabetes. Dr. Tamara Horwich, assistant professor of cardiology, and medical student Sofia Tomova were quoted.

### **Wall Street Journal Cites IBS Network**

An April 16 [Wall Street Journal](#) article about a new online network for doctors and their patients who suffer from inflammatory bowel disease cited the participation of Dr. Neal Halfon, professor of pediatrics, health services and public policy and director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities. He was quoted. The [Chicago Tribune](#) also syndicated an April 13 op-ed by Halfon that

originally appeared April 12 in U.S. News and World Report. His piece discussed how the lifelong health trajectories of large populations affect health care costs.

### **Concussion Expert Comments in Local, Japanese News**

[NHK](#), Japan's public broadcast station, reported April 14 on concussion's health effects on young athletes and included an interview with Dr. Chris Giza, associate professor of pediatric neurology at Mattel Children's Hospital and professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine, to discuss his research in this field. The [Beverly Hills Courier](#) also reported April 13 on new funding for the UCLA Brain Injury Research Center to participate in a consortium studying the long-term effects of sports-related concussions. Giza was quoted.

### **NPR-Affiliate Reports on Caregivers' Poverty Wage**

[KCRW-89.9 FM](#) reported April 17 on a study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the Fielding School of Public Health finding that the majority of California's Medi-Cal caregivers earn poverty or near-poverty wages and have poor access to health care.

### **Media Report on Minimally-Invasive Surgery for Prostate Cancer**

The [Atlanta Business Journal](#), [Education Technology](#), [Robotics Wire](#), [News Blaze](#), [KCOY-TV](#), (Santa Barbara) [KAIT-TV](#) (Arizona), [Tickertech](#) and [Sys-Con Belgium](#) reported April 18 on a study finding that minimally invasive methods to remove the prostate due to cancer pose fewer complications, present less need for blood transfusions and allow men to leave the hospital sooner. Dr. Jim Hu, director of minimally invasive surgery in the Department of Urology, was cited.

### **Burbank Times Spotlights Lung Disease in Kids**

The Burbank Times ran an April 13 profile of a 10-year-old UCLA pediatric patient who voiced a public service announcement to raise awareness about the need for more research into treatments for kids with pulmonary hypertension, which he suffers from. The article quoted his cardiologist, Dr. Juan Alejos, professor of cardiology and director of the pediatric pulmonary hypertension program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA.

### **Gluck to Lead New Health System Board**

The [Beverly Hills Courier](#) ran a front-page April 13 article on UCLA Health System's formation of a community board whose members will serve as ambassadors for the health system and its mission to heal humankind one patient at a time. Henry Gluck, chair of the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center board, and Dr. David Feinberg, UCLA Health System president, were quoted.

### **Geriatrician Pens Column on Unneeded Medical Tests**

Dr. James Davis, staff geriatrician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and associate professor of medicine, wrote an April 13 Santa Monica Mirror column about a recent report identifying 45 commonly used medical tests that provide no or minimal benefit to patients.

### **Medical Website Spotlights Cardiac Patient**

[Medical Express](#) reported April 13 about a UCLA congenital-heart patient whose life was saved by a hybrid procedure blending traditional surgery and minimally-invasive techniques. Dr. Jamil Aboulhosn, director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center and assistant clinical professor of cardiology, and Dr. Hillel Laks, professor of cardiothoracic surgery and a distinguished UCLA Chancellor's Professor, were quoted.

### **New Alzheimer's Support Group Launches in Santa Monica**

The [Beverly Hills Courier](#) ran an April 13 article about the launch of a "Beyond Alzheimer's" support group for caregivers at UCLA Health System's Santa Monica hospital campus. Spearheaded by Patti Davis, daughter of the late President Ronald Reagan, the initiative was first introduced at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in Westwood.

### **Trades Cover Robotic Surgery for Bladder Cancer**

The April 20 Health and Medicine Week and April 21 Obesity, Fitness and Wellness Week reported a study finding that robotic surgery for bladder cancer resulted in fewer deaths and complications than traditional open surgery, but cost more. Dr. Jim Hu, director of minimally invasive surgery in the Department of Urology, was quoted.

### **Chron of Higher Ed Cites Safety in University Labs**

An April 15 [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) article about safety in university laboratories cited a legal case against a UCLA professor and the UC Regents stemming from a 2008 laboratory fire on campus that led to the death of a staff research associate.

### **Trade Explores Controversy over Prof's Posting**

[Inside Higher Ed](#) reported April 16 on a UCLA professor who included links to a site promoting a boycott of Israel on his course website. Dr. Andrew Leuchter, chair of the UCLA Academic Senate and a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted.

## **BRIEFS**

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was cited in an April 15 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about comparison shopping for medical procedures.

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was cited in an April 17 [Los Angeles Times](#) blog about research suggesting that trauma patients transported to a hospital by helicopter had a better chance of survival than if they arrived by ambulance.

UCLA's Operation Mend program was cited April 18 in [The Pine Tree](#) (Calaveras County) in a story about a retired Vet who has walked 4,000 miles to raise money for the program.

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was cited April 14 in an [Orange County Register](#) story about a girl who recently celebrated her third birthday following a life-saving heart transplant in 2011.

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was cited in the April 12 [Thousand Oaks Acorn](#) about teens who recently held an annual "battle of bands" contest to raise money for pediatric cancer research at the hospital.

The [Daily News](#) ran a calendar listing for an April 22 drumming workshop called "Beat the Odds," which can help build emotional and social skills in children and youth.

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was mentioned in an April 19 [Thousand Oaks Acorn](#) story about a Ventura County middle school student who needs a kidney transplant.

## **QUOTABLES**

Lori Baudino, a clinical psychologist and movement therapist at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted April 18 in Salt Lake City's [Deseret News](#) about encouraging artistic expression in young children.

Susan Bowerman, assistant director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, commented in an April 17 [LA Weekly](#) column about the nutritional value of Trader Joe's "quick-cook" organic brown rice.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented April 17 in [HealthDay News](#) about how testosterone supplements may give heart-failure patients the energy to exercise.

Dr. John Glaspy, professor of hematology/oncology and a research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted April 19 in the [Los Angeles Times](#) about different subtypes of breast cancer.

Dr. Andrew Leuchter, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted April 17 by the [Los Angeles Times](#) about research suggesting that depression can be diagnosed with a blood test.

Dr. Mark Litwin, chair of urology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted April 17 in stories by [Reuters](#) and Associated Press Radio about Warren Buffet's diagnosis with early-stage prostate cancer.

Steven Shoptaw, professor of family medicine and psychiatry and director of the UCLA Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, was quoted April 19 by [HealthDay News](#) about a study showing that teens that use methamphetamine and ecstasy have a higher risk of depression.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, commented April 19 in [HealthDay News](#) about regrets and aging. He was also quoted in an April 18 [HealthDay News](#) story about everyday activities that can lower Alzheimer's risk.

Dr. Eric Vilain, director of the UCLA Center for Society and Genetics and professor of human genetics, urology and pediatrics at the David Geffen School of Medicine, was quoted by the [Montreal Gazette](#) in an April 19 column about how the legal recognition of gender should extend beyond anatomy.

Dr. Dennis Woo, staff pediatrician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and associate professor of pediatrics, commented April 16 in [HealthDay News](#) about kids and the "choking game." The story also appeared at CBS News.com.

Dahlia Zaidel, adjunct professor of psychiatry and a researcher with UCLA's Brain Research Institute, commented April 18 in a [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) story about cosmetic surgery.

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