



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT  
For the week of April 15 - 21, 2011**

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### **Hand Transplant Patient's Intro Draws Wide Coverage**

A press conference introducing a Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center patient who received the first hand transplant in the western United States garnered wide news coverage April 19-21. Stories ran on NBC's "Today Show," the Los Angeles Times, Associated Press, CBSnews.com, KCBS-Channel 2, KNBC-Channel 4, KTLA-Channel 5, KABC-Channel 7, KCAL-Channel 9, KTTV-Channel 11, Huffington Post, AOL's Patch.com, La Opinión, KPCC 89.3FM, Ventura County Star, and more than 400 other outlets. A Los Angeles Times blog featuring video on the patient's journey also ran in the Baltimore Sun and the Sun Sentinel (FL.). The AP story ran in the Los Angeles Daily News, San Diego Union-Tribune and dozens of other outlets. Dr. Ronald Busutil, executive chair of surgery; Dr. Kodi Azari, surgical director of the UCLA Hand Transplantation Program and associate professor of orthopaedic surgery and plastic surgery; and Dr. Sue McDiarmid, medical director of the UCLA Hand Transplantation Program, professor of pediatrics, and surgery director of the Dumont-UCLA Pediatric Liver Transplant Program, were quoted.

"Hand Transplant 'Surreal' to Young Mom"

[http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/42652918/ns/today-today\\_health/](http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/42652918/ns/today-today_health/)

"Hand Transplant Patient Speaks"

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-hand-transplant-ucla-20110419,0,2677844.story?page=1>

"Hand Transplant Recipient Emily Fennell Shows Off Her New Hand in UCLA Video"

<http://www.latimes.com/health/boostershots/la-heb-hand-transplant-ucla-video-20110419,0,2743301.story>

"UCLA Doctors Introduce Hand-Transplant Recipient"

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2011/04/19/ucla-doctors-to-introduce-hand-transplant-recipient-tuesday/>

NorCal Woman Gets Successful Hand Transplant"

[http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health/your\\_health&id=8082717](http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health/your_health&id=8082717)

"West Coast's First Hand Transplant Recipient Opens Up"

<http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/West-Coasts-First-Hand-Transplant-Recipient-Opens-Up-120221979.html>

### **L.A. Times Spotlights Genetic Counselor's Role**

Michelle Fox and Naghmeh Dorrani, genetic counselors at the UCLA Medical Genetics Clinic, were featured April 18 in a Los Angeles Times story about the role of genetic counselors in helping people understand the clues to diseases held in their DNA. Two UCLA patients and their families were profiled. The story also appeared in the Baltimore Sun.

"Genetic Counselors Help People Whose Genomes May Hold Risks for Diseases"

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-genetic-counselors-20110418,0,6871002.story>

### **CNN Explains Bipolar Disorder**

Carrie Bearden, associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, appeared April 15 on CNN Headline News' "Drew Pinsky Show" to discuss bipolar disorder.

"Understanding Bipolar Disorder"

<http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/1104/14/ddhln.01.html>

### **CBS Affiliates Highlight Autism Research**

Dr. Shafali Jeste, assistant professor in neurology and psychiatry, was featured in a CBS report that aired April 20 on several affiliates, including locally on KCBS-Channel 2 and KCAL-Channel 9. She discussed her research to understand brain functioning in children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and in infants at risk for ASD.

"Autism 90-Day Prevention Program"

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2011/04/20/autism-90-day-prevention-program/>

### **Entertainment Trades Spotlight Cancer Fundraiser**

A fundraiser to support research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center was covered April 14 in the Hollywood Reporter and April 18 in Variety. Judith Gasson, the cancer center's director, was quoted in the Reporter story.

"Showtime's Nevin Honored by Org"

<http://www.variety.com/article/VR1118035592>

### **Chicago Tribune Explores Genetic Testing's Pros, Cons**

The Chicago Tribune ran an April 19 story about the experience of a family who underwent testing for Huntington's disease at the UCLA Medical Genetics Clinic. Genetic counselor Michele Fox told them their results.

"Genetic Testing: One Family Faces Down Huntington's Disease"

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/health/la-heb-family-huntingtons-genetic-testing-20110419,0,5378623.story>

### **KCET Examines Lab Animal Research**

An April 14 KCET-Channel 28 "SoCal Connected" report about the use of animals in biomedical research highlighted the experiences of Edythe London, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, and professor of molecular and medical pharmacology; David Jentsch, professor of psychiatry; and Dario Ringach, professor of neurobiology and psychology.

"Testing the Limits"

[http://www.kcet.org/shows/socal\\_connected/content/health/testing-the-limits-1120110414.html](http://www.kcet.org/shows/socal_connected/content/health/testing-the-limits-1120110414.html)

### **Channel 7 Looks at Why Naps are Beneficial**

Dr. Alon Avidan, associate professor of neurology and associate director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Program, was interviewed April 20 on KABC-Channel 7 about the importance of sleep and health benefits of short naps.

"Expert: Naps Can Fix for Sleepy Controllers Problem"

[http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health/your\\_health&id=8085070](http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health/your_health&id=8085070)

### **KABC Investigates Tai Chi's Effect on Elderly Depression**

Research by Dr. Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Late-Life Depression, Stress, and Wellness Research Program, was featured April 14 on KABC-Channel 7. She found that tai chi chih, when combined with medication, helped elderly people lower their depression and improved their memory and cognition.

"Tai Chi Found to Alleviate Stress, Depression"

[http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health/your\\_health&id=8074080](http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health/your_health&id=8074080)

### **KPCC Addresses Coffee's Health Benefits**

Dr. David Liebeskind, associate neurology director at the UCLA Stroke Center, appeared April 18 on KPCC 89.3FM's Patt Morrison show to discuss the health benefits of drinking coffee.

"Don't Give Up Your Coffee-Drinking Habit Just Yet..."

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/patt-morrison/2011/04/18/dont-give-up-your-coffee-drinking-habit-just-yet/>

### **Examiner, E! Science Highlight Cancer Recurrence**

A study by Dr. Patricia Ganz showing that a blood pressure drug may increase risk for breast cancer recurrence was highlighted April 19 by Examiner.com, E! Science News and DotMed.com. Ganz is director of cancer prevention and control research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

"Blood Pressure Med May Increase Risk of Breast Cancer Recurrence"

<http://www.examiner.com/women-s-health-in-los-angeles/blood-pressure-med-may-increase-risk-of-breast-cancer-recurrence>

"ACE Inhibitors May Increase Risk of Recurrence in Breast Cancer Survivors"

<http://esciencenews.com/articles/2011/04/20/ace.inhibitors.may.increase.risk.recurrence.breast.cancer.survivors>

"ACE Inhibitors May Increase Risk of Recurrence in Breast Cancer Survivors, Study Finds"

<http://www.dotmed.com/news/story/15881/>

### **Ovarian Cancer Research Garners Widespread Coverage**

A study by Dr. Oliver Dorigo that showed an experimental drug slows ovarian cancer growth in mice was featured April 15 by Examiner.com; April 16 by Daily News & Analysis, Asian News International, Yahoo

News and MedIndia; and April 17 by InewsConnect.com. Dorigo is an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology and a Jonsson Cancer Center researcher.

“UCLA Unveils another Ovarian Cancer Breakthrough”

<http://www.examiner.com/women-s-health-in-los-angeles/ucla-unveils-another-ovarian-cancer-breakthrough-1>

“New Experimental Drug Slows Down Growth of Ovarian Cancer”

<http://in.news.yahoo.com/experimental-drug-slows-down-growth-ovarian-cancer-20110416-024954-578.html>

“Research Reveals New Experimental Drug Slows Down Growth of Ovarian Cancer”

<http://www.medindia.net/news/Research-Reveals-New-Experimental-Drug-Slows-Down-Growth-of-Ovarian-Cancer-83751-1.htm>

### **Milwaukee Paper Showcases Infant Mortality Research**

The Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel featured an April 18 Q&A with Dr. Michael Lu, associate professor of obstetrics/gynecology and public health, about his efforts to reduce the infant mortality gap between African American and white newborns.

“Fighting Disparities in Infant Mortality”

<http://www.jsonline.com/features/health/120032294.html>

### **L.A. Times Highlights Impact of Drug Shortages**

An April 19 column in the Los Angeles Times about drug shortages in the U.S. highlighted the experiences of Sandra Binder, a medical manager with UCLA’s Santa Monica Hematology–Oncology Parkside Community Practice Group. Binder was quoted.

“FDA Needs Teeth to Avoid Drug Shortages”

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-fi-hiltzik-20110419.0.1312795.column>

### **Alabama Paper Profiles Stroke Patient**

Dr. Nestor Gonzalez, assistant professor of neurosurgery and radiological sciences and a member of the UCLA Stroke Center, was featured in an April 15 Montgomery Advertiser (Alabama) article about a young woman who suffered a brain stem stroke and was treated with a complicated surgical procedure by Gonzalez.

“Stroke of Grace: Woman Inspires Others with Her Story”

<http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/article/20110415/NEWS01/104150332/Stroke-grace-Woman-inspires-others-her-story>

### **Pasadena Paper Warns against Ticks, Lyme Disease**

The Pasadena Star News ran an April 16 column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine, division of infectious diseases, about how spring is the season for the juvenile ticks that can transmit infections like Lyme disease.

“Infection Files: Spring! Season of Ticks and Lyme”

[http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/ci\\_17866878](http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/ci_17866878)

### **Examiner, E! Science Cover Squamous Cell Study**

A study by researchers at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Broad Stem Cell Research Center identifying a cell of origin for squamous cell carcinoma was featured April 18 by Examiner.com and April 19 by E! Science News. William Lowry, assistant professor of molecular, cell and developmental biology, led the research.

“UCLA Researchers Identify a Cell of Origin for Squamous Cell Carcinoma

<http://www.examiner.com/health-in-los-angeles/ucla-researchers-identify-a-cell-of-origin-for-squamous-cell-carcinoma>

“Cell of Origin for Squamous Cell Carcinoma Discovered”

<http://esciencenews.com/articles/2011/04/19/cell.origin.squamous.cell.carcinoma.discovered>

### **Valley Paper Cites National Children’s Health Study**

The Foothills News reported April 15 on the National Children's Study which is investigating the causes of childhood disease such as diabetes, obesity, asthma, autism and birth defects. The UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities is directing the study.

"National Children's Study (NCS) Seeks Answers In 2011 Survey"

<http://thefoothillspaper.com/>

### **Media Tout New Guide to Colonoscopy Prep**

Outpatient Surgery magazine and the Star Global Tribune reported April 19 on an educational booklet developed by Veteran Affairs and UCLA researchers to help patients prepare for a colonoscopy. Dr. Brennan Spiegel, associate professor of digestive diseases and director of the UCLA/VA Center for Outcomes Research and Education, spearheaded the booklet's development. He was quoted.

"Simple Interventions Boost Colonoscopy Effectiveness"

<http://www.outpatientsurgery.net/newsletter/eweekly/2011/04/19>

"Colon Cancer – New Educational Booklet on Colonoscopy Published"

<http://starglobaltribune.com/2011/colon-cancer-new-educational-booklet-on-colonoscopy-published-7969>

### **Website Notes Fructose's Link to Pancreatic Cancer**

ThirdAge.com reported April 18 on a study by Dr. Anthony Heaney finding that pancreatic cancer cells use fructose to fuel their growth. Heaney is a Jonsson Cancer Center researcher and an associate professor of endocrinology.

"Sugar Variant Fuels Cancer More than Other Forms of Sugar"

<http://www.thirdage.com/news/fructose-more-responsible-for-cancer-04-19-2011>

### **BRIEFS**

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was cited April 20 in a KABC 790AM online brief about Dodgers player Chad Billingsley, who hosted pediatric patients at a home game as part of his community initiative.

"Dodgers Return Home"

<http://kabc.com/Article.asp?id=2160931&spid=38629>

The Los Angeles Times cited UCLA's oncology program in an April 15 story about a shortage of a chemotherapy drug for leukemia. The story also appeared in the Baltimore Sun.

"Chemotherapy Drug Shortage Threatens Leukemia Treatment in Children"

<http://www.latimes.com/health/boostershots/la-heb-chemotherapy-drug-shortage-04152011,0,2805431.story>

### **QUOTABLES**

Burt Cowgill, senior project director at the UCLA/RAND Center for Adolescent Health Promotion and staff research associate supervisor in the department of pediatrics, was quoted April 18 by CNN.com about the lack of free drinking water available to school children at mealtime. Cowgill commented on a pilot study that provided free water and cups to students in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

"For Schoolchildren, Where's the Water?"

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/HEALTH/04/18/water.school.children/>

Dr. John DiFiori, chief of sports medicine, was quoted April 15 in the Los Angeles Times about former quarterback Terry Bradshaw's concussion-linked memory problems.

"Football Concussions Catching Up with Terry Bradshaw, He Says"

<http://www.latimes.com/health/boostershots/la-heb-concussions-football-bradshaw-04152011,0,4467937.story?track=rss>

Fernando Gomez-Pinilla, professor of neurosurgery and physiology, was quoted April 20 in a Wall Street Journal article about the need for immediate nutrition following brain injury.

"Feeding Found to Help Brain Injuries"

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704658704576274861254400264.html>

Marco Iacoboni, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted April 15 by ABCNews.com about how vicarious embarrassment for others was closely tied to empathy centers in the brain. He also was quoted April 18 in a Toronto Globe and Mail article about research on embarrassment and empathy.

"Vicarious Embarrassment: Awkward Moments Trigger Pain Centers in the Brain"

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/MindMoodNews/vicarious-embarrassment-awkward-moments-trigger-pain-centers-brain/story?id=13366555>

"We're Wired to Feel Embarrassment for Others"

<http://m.theglobeandmail.com/life/facts-and-arguments/social-studies/were-wired-to-feel-embarrassment-for-others/article1990267/?service=mobile>

Dr. Michael Lu, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology and of public health, was quoted April 21 in a USA Today article about research indicating that children who were exposed to high pesticide levels in the womb have lower average IQs than other kids.

"Pesticide Exposure in Womb Linked to Low IQ"

<http://yourlife.usatoday.com/parenting-family/pregnancy/story/2011/04/Children-exposed-to-high-pesticide-levels-in-the-womb-have-lower-IQs-new-studies-show/46340432/1>

David Miklowitz, director of the child and adolescent mood disorders program at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an April 14 USA Today article about bipolar disorder.

"Zeta-Jones Puts Public Face on Mental Illness"

<http://yourlife.usatoday.com/health/story/2011/04/Zeta-Jones-puts-public-face-on-mental-illness-/46134286/1>

Dr. Aurelia Nattiv, professor of family medicine and orthopaedic surgery and director of the UCLA Osteoporosis Center, was quoted April 21 in a Wall Street Journal blog about a study linking calcium supplements and increased heart attack risk among women.

"Sussing Out Calcium Supplements and Heart Attack Risk"

<http://blogs.wsj.com/health/2011/04/21/sussing-out-calcium-supplements-and-heart-disease-risk/>

Dr. John Ringman, associate professor of neurology and interim director of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research, was quoted April 19 by Reuters about new U.S. diagnostic guidelines for Alzheimer's disease.

"New Alzheimer's Guidelines View Disease in Stages"

<http://www.latimes.com/sns-rt-alzheimers-guidelinn19209121-20110419.0.1966039.print.story>

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