



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of April 19-25, 2013**

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New York Times, Others Highlight new Effort to Fast Track ASD Drugs

Dr. James McCracken, Campbell Professor of Child Psychiatry and director of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in an April 24 [New York Times](#) article about a new \$9 million effort he will lead to form a network of researchers at UCLA and other academic centers that will try to identify promising new and older drug compounds quickly to treat autism spectrum disorders. The effort is being financed by the National Institute of Mental Health. The study was also featured April 24 on the [KPCC 89.3FM](#) website and [HealthCanal.com](#), and April 23 by [Examiner.com](#).

LA Times, Other Media Report on UCLA Going Tobacco-Free

UCLA's ban on the use of cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco and other tobacco products on campus, was covered April 23 by the [Los Angeles Times](#), [KTTV-Channel 11](#) and [KCAL-Channel 9](#), and April 22 by [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KNBC-Channel 4](#) and the [Santa Clarita Valley News](#). Linda Sarna, professor of nursing at the UCLA School of Nursing and chair of UCLA's Tobacco-Free Steering Committee, was quoted in the coverage.

How Hospitals Prepare for Emergencies

An April 19 [CBS News.com](#) article about Boston hospitals' response in the wake of the recent bomb attack highlighted the ways in which Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center prepares for major disasters. William Dunne, director of emergency preparedness and security services for the UCLA Health System, was quoted.

Endocrinology Chief Comments on Insulin Cell-making Hormone

Dr. Peter Butler, chief of the division of endocrinology and director of the Larry L. Hillblom Islet Research Center, was quoted April 25 in [Associated Press](#), [USA Today](#), and [Fashion & Style](#) articles about a study identifying a hormone that boosts the number of insulin making cells in mice. The AP story also ran in [US News & World Report](#), the [San Francisco Chronicle](#), and the [Washington Post](#),

Breakthrough in Lung Transplantation

[CNN](#) April 25 reported and NPR affiliate [WUKY 91.3FM](#) (Lexington, Ky.) April 17 reported on a new experimental device that delivers donor lungs in a near-physiological state instead of in an icebox. UCLA performed the nation's first transplant using this device in November. Dr. Abbas Ardehali, professor of cardiothoracic surgery and director of the heart and lung transplantation program at UCLA, was interviewed. In addition, UCLA's lung transplant program was referenced April 24 in a [KGUN-Channel 9](#) (Tucson, Ariz.) story about how the University of Arizona Medical Center plans to use the device in the near future.

Keeping Kids' Weight Down

Dr. Tanya Altmann, assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, April 15 appeared on [KTLA-Channel 5](#) to discuss surprising facts that affect kids' weight.

Local TV Stations Cover Rise in Heart Failure Costs

An April 24 [CBS Newspath](#) story on a new American Heart Association report about the rising costs and increased occurrence of heart failure ran on news stations across the country including [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KUTV-TV](#) (Salt Lake City, Utah), [KKFX-TV](#) (Santa Barbara, Calif.), [KREX-TV](#) (Grand Junction, Colo.), [KLBK-TV](#) (Lubbock, Texas), [WSBT-TV](#) (South Bend, Ind.), [WTVF-TV](#) (Nashville, Tenn.), [WTSP-TV](#) (St. Petersburg, Fla.), [KHNL-TV](#) (Honolulu), [WLKY-TV](#) (Louisville, Ky.) and 50 other outlets. Co-author Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was interviewed and a UCLA patient was featured in the report.

Two Generations Living with Heart Disease

[KGET-Channel 17](#) (Bakersfield) April 25 profiled a local woman with congenital heart disease who came to UCLA for care during her pregnancy during which time it was discovered that her unborn baby also had heart disease and needed immediate surgery upon her birth. The pair was selected to be featured in a local campaign to raise awareness about heart disease in women.

Nursing Trade Highlights Cultural Competency Training

The April 17 issue of [Nurse Zone](#) highlighted the UCLA School of Nursing's efforts to advance cultural competence in nursing. Courtney Lyder, dean of the School of Nursing and Adey Nyamathi, associate dean for international research and scholarly studies, were quoted.

"Chemo Brain" Confirmation Study Garners Wide Coverage

[Examiner.com](#) April 18, [PsychCentral.com](#) April 19, [Science 2.0](#) April 20 and other outlets featured a new study led by Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of cancer prevention and control research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, professor of health policy and management at the Fielding School of Public Health and professor of medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine, that confirmed a scientific basis for cognitive complaints of breast cancer patients after treatment commonly known as "chemo brain." Ganz was quoted in the coverage.

Online Media Highlight UCLA Stem Cell Purifying Study

[CIRM](#), [HealthCanal.com](#), [Science Daily](#), [Medical News Today](#), and other outlets April 22 highlighted a study in which researchers used a new agent that could be used to improve purification of stem cells developed for therapies. The leaders of the study, Carla Koehler, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, and Dr. Michael Teitell, professor of pathology and pediatrics, both members of the Eli and Edythe Broad Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research and UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, were quoted.

'Zoobiquity' Benefits People and Animals

Dr. Barbara Natterson-Horowitz, professor of clinical medicine in the division of cardiology and director of imaging at the UCLA Cardiac Arrhythmia Center, was interviewed April 22 on NPR's "[Fresh Air](#)" about her research comparing physical and mental disorders in animals and humans and her book "Zoobiquity," which examines the species-spanning nature of illness.

EmpowerHer.com Features New Breast Cancer Drug Designated "Breakthrough" by FDA

[EmpowerHer.com](#) April 23 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 Finn, associate professor of medicine at JCCC, were quoted in the coverage.

Health Website Reports State Shortage in Specialized Pediatricians

Daphna Gans, a research scientist at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the Fielding School of Public Health, was featured in an April 24 [HealthyCal.org](#) article about her study showing that California has a strikingly low number of sub-specialty pediatricians-- endocrinologists, cardiologists, and other medical specialists--compared to other states.

Health Website Notes Elderly Mood Disorders

Dr. Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the Late-Life Depression, Stress, and Wellness Research Program, was featured in an April 15 blog post on [Elderbranch.com](#) about late-life mood disorders.

Westside Newspaper Reports on New Clinical Trial for MS

Dr. Rhonda Voskuhl, professor of neurology and director of the Multiple Sclerosis Research and Treatment Program, was featured in the April 15 [Westside Today](#) about a clinical trial she is leading to treat the cognitive problems associated with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) using the hormone estriol.

Approximately half of all MS patients experience cognitive problems such as processing information, concentration and executive functions.

Kidney Cancer Study Continues to Grab Headlines

[Daily Rx](#) April 19 and the [Beverly Hills Courier](#) April 25 reported that researchers led by Dr. Allan Pantuck, professor of urology and director of genitourinary oncology at UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center, have classified kidney cancer into several unique subtypes, a breakthrough that could help doctors tailor treatments to individual patients. Pantuck and Dr. Arie Beldegrun, director of UCLA's Institute of Urologic Oncology, were quoted.

ESPN Radio Dials in UCLA Team Physician to Heal Weekend Warriors

Dr. John DiFiori, chief of the division of sports medicine at UCLA and a member of the orthopaedics team at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, appeared on [ESPN Radio's](#) "Weekend Warrior" show April 20 to discuss new research and treatments in the sports medicine field. DiFiori also was quoted in an April 21 [Orange County Register](#) story about new concussion guidelines.

Santa Clarita TV Station Calls on Santa Monica Nurse to Discuss African Relief Work

Maureen Wright, labor and delivery nurse at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, appeared April 23 on [Santa Clarita Valley TV](#) to talk about her experiences during four medical missions to Africa.

Bruins for Boston Donate Blood

[KCBS-Channel 2](#) April 22; [KNBC-Channel 4](#) and [Annenburg TV News](#) April 23; and the Westwood-Century City edition of AOL's [Patch](#) April 24 reported on a UCLA student blood drive for patients at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center that was held in honor of the Boston Marathon bombing victims.

Santa Monica Mirror Highlights Procedure to Clear Carotid Arteries

The April 21 [Santa Monica Mirror](#) reported that Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was the first on the west coast to perform a new procedure that is part of a clinical trial to help clear plaque-ridden carotid arteries. Dr. Wesley Moore, UCLA study investigator and professor emeritus of vascular surgery, was quoted.

GMA Highlights Cupping

On April 22 a [Good Morning America](#) story featured celebrities' use of cupping, a Traditional Chinese Medicine practice involving suction on the skin to increase circulation. Dr. Lawrence Taw, assistant clinical professor at the UCLA Center for East-West Medicine, was interviewed.

Mystery of Medical Care Pricing

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was cited in an April 18 [Los Angeles Times](#) column exploring the costs of various medical treatments.

BRIEFS

The UCLA Children's Discovery and Innovation Institute at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was referenced in coverage of a recent fundraising event that featured designer miniature dollhouses that were auctioned to help raise money for the Institute. The coverage included [US Weekly](#) May 6; the [Los Angeles Times](#) April 21; [Hollywood Life](#) April 20; [Curbed](#) April 19, and [People](#) magazine April 18.

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was referenced in an April 22 [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) article about the city of Santa Monica's largest employers. Hospital spokesman Ted Braun was quoted in the article.

QUOTABLES

Barbara Bates-Jensen, associate professor of nursing, was quoted in an April 22 [USA Today](#) article about the wounds of those injured in the Boston Marathon bomb attack.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted April 23 in a [HealthDay News](#) article about a study suggesting that a certain type of heart drug may reduce the risk of death when taken before and after non-heart surgeries. In addition, he was quoted April 23 in a [HealthDay News](#) article about a study suggesting that a blood test used to gauge the level of a certain compound in the stomach could also indicate a risk for heart attack and stroke. He was also quoted April 19 in a [Reuters](#) article about delays in treatment that lead to poorer outcomes for heart attack patients.

Emanuel Maidenberg, associate clinical professor of psychiatry and director of the Cognitive Behavior Therapy Clinic at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an April 19 [Huffington Post](#) column about coping with the psychological aftermath of the Boston Marathon bomb attack.

Catherine Mogil, director of the child and family trauma psychiatry service at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an April 19 [Associated Press](#) article about Boston residents suffering fear and anxiety in the wake of the bomb attack.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, director of the UCLA Longevity Center and a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, was cited April 24 in a [Huffington Post](#) article about how much time children should spend using technology.

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