



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of April 20 - 26, 2012**

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Study IDs Genes Linked to Bigger Brain, Higher IQ

N.Y. Times Touts Heart Transplants for Older Patients

Local TV Explains Mad Cow Disease

FOX Investigates Teens Gulping Hand Sanitizer

Caregivers Live on Poverty Wages Reports La Opinión

KPCC, AOL's Patch Mark Passing of National Public Health Advocate

Huffington Post Highlights PTSD Study

KMEX Spotlights Improv for Families Coping with War

Channel 5, Local Paper Profile Young Entrepreneur

Local Papers Offer Primer on World Malaria Day

Doctor Highlights Health Care Quality, Safety

ABC Affiliates Cover Scams on Dementia Patients

Olympic Athletes Bring Smiles to Sick Kids

Online Outlets Cover Neural Stem Cell Research

AOL's Patch Notes Surgeon's Award

Newsire Examines Your Brain on Advertising

Doctor Pens Advice for Keeping Water Out of Little Ears

S.M. Daily Press Covers Expectant Mom's Ordeal

Australian Paper Features Melanoma Research

BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

Magazine Explores Psychedelic Drugs for Terminal Patients

Research by Dr. Charles Grob, professor of psychiatry and pediatrics at the Semel Institute, and director of child and adolescent psychiatry at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, was featured by the April 22 [New York Times Magazine](#) about using magic mushrooms to ease terminally ill patients' anxiety and depression. Grob was quoted.

Study IDs Genes Linked to Bigger Brain, Higher IQ

Research by UCLA scientists and colleagues aimed at identifying human genes that correlate to a bigger brain and higher IQ was highlighted April 23 by [Science Fare](#), April 20 by the [Alzheimer Research Forum](#), and April 19 by [SFARI](#) and India's [Press Trust Institute](#). The PTI article was picked up by New Delhi's [Daily Pioneer](#).

N.Y. Times Touts Heart Transplants for Older Patients

An April 23 [New York Times](#) blog about older patients receiving heart transplants cited a program at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in which patients over 72 receive hearts from older donors. Dr. Abbas Ardehali, professor of cardiothoracic surgery and surgical director of UCLA's heart and lung transplantation program, was quoted.

Local TV Explains Mad Cow Disease

David Teplow, professor of neurology and interim director of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research, was featured in April 25 reports on [KNBC-Channel 4](#), [KTTV-Channel 11](#), [Telemundo-Channel 52](#), and [KSCI-Channel 18](#) about how mad cow disease infects cattle.

FOX Investigates Teens Gulping Hand Sanitizer

[KTTV-TV Channel 11](#) reported April 23 on teens drinking hand sanitizer to get drunk and featured an interview with Dr. Mark Morocco, associate clinical professor of medicine, division of emergency medicine.

Caregivers Live on Poverty Wages Reports La Opinión

[La Opinión](#) reported April 22 on a study by UCLA's 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.

KPCC, AOL's Patch Mark Passing of National Public Health Advocate

[KPCC-89.3FM](#) reported April 25 and the [Santa Monica Patch](#) reported April 23 on the death of E. Richard ("Rick") Brown, a longtime professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and founding director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.

Huffington Post Highlights PTSD Study

A UCLA study by Dr. Armen Goenjian, a research professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, linking two genes involved in serotonin production to a higher risk of developing post-traumatic stress disorder, was highlighted April 22 by the [Huffington Post](#).

KMEX Spotlights Improv for Families Coping with War

Blanca Orellano, model supervisor at the UCLA Nathanson Family Resilience Center, was interviewed April 19 by [KMEX-Channel 34](#) about the center's work with military families and veterans. She also addressed the center's plans to partner with the nonprofit Rx Laughter and the Second City Training Center to help military and veteran families use improvisational comedy techniques to deal with the traumatic effects of war.

Channel 5, Local Paper Profile Young Entrepreneur

[KTLA-Channel 5](#) aired an April 23 story and [Brentwood News](#) reported April 20 about former Mattel Children's Hospital patient Cameron Cohen, 14, who is donating revenues from the sales of two Apple

apps he created to support research by Dr. Noah Federman, director of the pediatric bone and soft-tissue sarcoma program. Federman was interviewed on KTLA and cited in Brentwood News. The KTLA story re-aired in more than a dozen markets nationwide.

Local Papers Offer Primer on World Malaria Day

The April 20 editions of [Los Angeles Daily News](#), [Pasadena Star-News](#) and [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#) ran a column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine, division of infectious diseases, about the history of malaria and efforts to fight the disease around the world.

Doctor Highlights Health Care Quality, Safety

[The Hospitalist](#) published an April 25 profile of Dr. Nasim Afsar-Manesh, associate medical director of quality and safety at UCLA Health System, executive director for quality and safety in the Department of Medicine, and director of quality for the Department of Neurosurgery. She was quoted.

ABC Affiliates Cover Scams on Dementia Patients

[KOMO-TV Channel 4](#) (Seattle) and other ABC affiliates across the country covered how scammers prey on people diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. The report included an interview with Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center.

Olympic Athletes Bring Smiles to Sick Kids

[Fox Sports](#) covered an April 18 visit by a group of track and field athletes, some Olympic medalists, with pediatric patients at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA. The visit was organized by Athletes for Hope.

Online Outlets Cover Neural Stem Cell Research

[Science Daily](#), [CIRM Blog](#), [Stem Cell News](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Stem Cell TV](#), [Stem Cell Therapy](#) and [Stem Cells Research](#) reported April 25 and [HealthCanal.com](#) and Gene Therapy reported April 26 about a study by Bennett Novitch explaining how neural stem cells clump together to multiply and then break apart to mature into motor neurons. Novitch is an assistant professor of neurobiology and a researcher with the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at UCLA.

AOL's Patch Notes Surgeon's Award

The [Santa Monica Patch](#) reported April 24 that Dr. Timothy Miller, professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery and surgical director of UCLA's Operation Mend, was awarded the "Rick Crocker Spirit of Volunteerism Award" by the American Red Cross of Santa Monica.

Newswire Examines Your Brain on Advertising

[Asian News International](#) reported April 26 on a study by Matthew Lieberman, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, in which researchers imaged the brains of smokers while they were asked to rate the effectiveness of several anti-smoking ads, with surprising results. Lieberman is quoted.

Doctor Pens Advice for Keeping Water Out of Little Ears

Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and associate professor of head and neck surgery, wrote a column published April 25 in [Westside Today](#) about avoiding swimmer's ear in children.

S.M. Daily Press Covers Expectant Mom's Ordeal

The [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) ran an April 23 front-page story and photo about an expectant mom who delivered healthy twins after 120 days of bed rest at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica.

Australian Paper Features Melanoma Research

The Hobart Mercury newspaper in Australia ran an April 24 article on the melanoma research of Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of hematology/oncology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Virginia Paper Suggests Best Spring Fruits, Veggies

The [Tri-Cities Herald](#) (VA) ran an April 25 article on choosing the best spring fruits and vegetables and cited tips from Dr. Natalie Digate Muth, pediatric resident at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and a registered dietician.

BRIEFS

Dr. David Feinberg, president of UCLA Health System and chief executive officer for the UCLA Hospital System, was applauded April 19 on CNN's "Piers Morgan Tonight" by leadership guru Tony Robbins for his role in transforming the culture at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, dramatically improving patient satisfaction and quality of care.

"Piers Morgan Tonight"

<http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=155390&key=YWUSA5W5CCgIUMawhalhiqvjFnJ2ZBkDb&email=ESchmidt@mednet.ucla.edu>

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was cited April 19 in [The Paper](#) (Los Banos, CA) about a local 7-year-old boy who was recently listed on the heart-transplant list at UCLA.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Liana Apostolova, associate clinical professor of neurology, was quoted in two Medscape Today articles on [April 17](#) and [April 19](#) (subscription) about new imaging tracers used to detect beta-amyloid plaques in patients with possible Alzheimer's disease.

Dr. Robert Cameron, professor of thoracic surgery, was quoted April 22 in the [Los Angeles Times](#) about his patient, a man who died from mesothelioma following his exposure to asbestos.

Christopher Colwell, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an April 25 [Asian News International](#) article about research showing that cellular changes in the brain's "clock" may cause sleep trouble in older animals and humans.

Dr. Daniel Dumesic, chief of the UCLA Fertility and Reproductive Health Center, was quoted April 24 in a [Houston Chronicle](#) article about the recent birth of sextuplets at a Texas hospital.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented April 25 in a [HealthDay News](#) article about the connection between blood-thinners and stroke. The story was picked up by [U.S. News & World Report](#).

Dr. Timothy Fong, associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and co-director of UCLA's Gambling Studies Program, was quoted April 26 in the [San Bernardino County Sun](#) about the connection between gambling addiction and crime.

Dr. David Heber, professor of medicine and director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, commented April 24 in [Time](#) about some brides-to-be use of a new feeding-tube diet to lose weight before their wedding. The article also appeared on [U.S. News & World Report](#). He was also quoted April 21 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about whether eating more fruits and vegetables can change one's skin color.

Dr. Donald Kohn, director of UCLA's Human Gene Medicine Program and a professor of microbiology, immunology, molecular genetics and pediatrics, was quoted April 22 in a [Detroit Free Press](#) article about a company that grows medicinal plants in a former copper mine.

Dr. Michael Ong, assistant professor of general internal medicine and health services research, was quoted April 23 in a [California Watch](#) story about research finding that marketing by the tobacco industry targets low-income and black youth.

Dr. Nick Shamie, orthopaedic spine surgeon at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and associate professor of orthopaedic surgery, was quoted in an April 24 [Becker's Spine Review](#) story about collaborations between spine surgeons and neurosurgeons.

Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, was quoted April 24 by [WebMD](#) about how kids exposed to violence and bullying may age faster than other children.

Steven Wallace, associate director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and chair of community health sciences at UCLA's Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted April 20 in [La Opinión](#) about how elderly Latinos are often unable to pay for their basic needs as a result of economic insecurity.

Dr. Neil Wenger, professor of general internal medicine and health services research and director of the UCLA Health System Ethics Center, was quoted April 22 in the [Los Angeles Times](#) about end-of-life care.

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