



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT

For the week of April 22 - 29, 2010

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.

Media Report that Eating Peppers May Help with Weight Loss

LA Times Covers a New Approach to Health Care Costs

NBC, LA Times Warns about iPad and Lack of Sleep

Local Media Highlight Expectant Parents' Hospital Wedding

FOX Sports West, People Magazine Cover Recognition of Operation Mend

L.A. Times, KFVB Highlight UCLA's Participation in Health Fair

HealthDay Explores Seniors' At-Risk Drinking

LA Times Special Insert Highlights UCLA Transplant Programs

Media Explains Trigeminal Neuralgia

Huffington Post Prints Prof's Panned Opinion Piece

London Independent, NBC Affiliate Explain "Fat" Gene Link to Brain Tissue Loss

Fox News Learns about the Brain

Media Cover Sentencing of Former Researcher for Records Breach

Local Papers Run Column on Valley Fever

Investors Daily, Discovery News Report on Antidepressants and Suicide

Community Papers Cover Recruitment for Smoking Cessation Vaccine

Breast Cancer Research Explored

Conference News Website Highlights Study on Two Procedures for Stroke Prevention

So Cal Minds Spotlights Donation to UCLA's Operation Mend

Local Blog Covers Marathon Runner's Road to Recovery

Women's Health Site Profiles Obstetrician

BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

Media Report that Eating Peppers May Help with Weight Loss

Time magazine, the Los Angeles Times, Washington Post, NPR, Hindustan Times, London Telegraph and Science News on April 28 reported on a study by researchers at the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition that found that capsaicin, the chemical that gives spice to hot peppers, may prompt the body to expend more energy and burn more calories. Center director Dr. David Heber, professor of medicine and public health, was cited in the coverage. Dr. Zhaoping Li, clinical professor of medicine, was cited in the Science News story. KGTV in San Diego, KTVU-TV in San Francisco and KCRA-TV in Sacramento also reported the findings. The study was presented at the 2010 Experimental Biology meeting in Anaheim. "Spicy Peppers May Hold the Key to Weight Loss Says Scientists"

http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/booster_shots/2010/04/capsaicin-hot-peppers-weight-loss.html

"Mild Peppers May Help Burn Calories"

http://www.npr.org/blogs/health/2010/04/more_study_needed_on_power_of.html

"The Burrito Diet?"

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/checkup/2010/04/the_burrito_diet.html?wprss=checkup

LA Times Covers a New Approach to Health Care Costs

The April 24 Los Angeles Times as well as the April 26 California Healthline and OC Metro reported that the UCLA Health System and several other Southern California hospitals will begin charging lump-sum fees — rather than doctors and hospitals charging separately — for knee and hip replacements. Dr. J. Thomas Rosenthal, chief medical officer for the UCLA Hospital System and associate vice chancellor of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

"Healthcare Providers Experiment with Lump-sum Pricing"

<http://www.latimes.com/news/la-fi-healthcare-costs-20100424.0,3981704.full.story>

"Calif. Hospitals, Insurers Trying Out New Bundled Payment Pricing System"

<http://www.californiahealthline.org/articles/2010/4/26/calif-hospitals-insurers-trying-out-new-bundled-payment-pricing-system.aspx>

"Local Hospitals Participate in Bundled-payment Trial"

http://www.ocmetro.com/t-Local_hospitals_bundle_04272010.aspx

NBC, LA Times Warns about iPad and Lack of Sleep

Dr. Alon Avidan, associate professor of neurology, associate director of the Sleep Disorders Program, and medical director of the Neurology Clinic, was featured in an April 27 NBC news segment about light emitting devices like the iPad and how they could lead to sleep issues if used late at night. The segment ran on KNBC-Channel 4, WNBC-Channel 4 (New York), KNTV-Channel 11, and Dr. Frisca Yan-Go, professor of neurology and medical director of the Sleep Disorders Center at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was featured in an accompanying web story. Avidan was also featured in an April 27 story on TechNewsDaily and April 24 in a Los Angeles Times health blog; Yan-Go was also quoted in an April 24 Yahoo! News story.

"iPad and Sleep: Strange Bedfellows"

<http://www.nbcloseangeles.com/news/tech/Can-the-iPad-Keep-you-Awake-92271239.html>

"iPad Could Cause Insomnia, Researchers Say"

<http://www.technewsdaily.com/ipad-could-cause-insomnia-researchers-say-0485/>

"Reading Before Bed on iPad Can Affect Sleep Habits"

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/technology/2010/04/ipad-kindle-ebook-sleep.html>

Local Media Highlight Expectant Parents' Hospital Wedding

KCAL-TV Channel 9 and KCBS-TV Channel 2 reported April 24 on the wedding ceremony arranged at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital for an expectant mom on bedrest and her

fiancé. The April 26 Santa Monica Daily Press published a front-page photo of the newlyweds and the April 29 Santa Monica Mirror contained a story and photo.

"Hospital Wedding"

<http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=126008&key=pTXP9XrFvzrPZPjxhJAw00uv1iuRGLzi&mail=tbraun@mednet.ucla.edu>

"Mad Dash"

<http://www.smdp.com/pdf/042610.pdf>

"Expect Mom on Bedrest Marries Fiancé"

<http://www.smmirror.com/MainPages/DisplayArticleDetails.asp?eid=12474>

FOX Sports West, People Magazine Cover Recognition of Operation Mend

Fox Sports West covered the April 27 Los Angeles Lakers half-time recognition in support of UCLA Health System's Operation Mend – a unique medical program that helps heal the wounds of war. Operation Mend brings service men and women injured while fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan to UCLA for reconstructive surgery and other medical treatments to rebuild their bodies – and their lives. The Los Angeles Lakers announced that the public can support Operation Mend by donating \$10 by texting -- and that each donation will help Operation Mend continue to serve the nation's men and women in uniform. The "texting" option will be in place for a year. People magazine's online April 30 edition also noted that celebrity David Arquette was one of four people who gave up their courtside seats to Operation Mend to watch the rest of the playoff game.

"NBA Playoffs: Lakers vs. Thunder -- Operation Mend"

<http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=125989&key=sxg3yZReBL7Ft78zqhBqgn24hkNRnstC&email=RMoster@mednet.ucla.edu>

"David Arquette Gives His \$3,700 Lakers Seats to Veterans -- During the Game!"

<http://www.people.com/people/article/0,,20365502,00.html>

L.A. Times, KFVB Highlight UCLA's Participation in Health Fair

An April 27 Daily Breeze article and an April 30 Los Angeles Times story cited the participation of UCLA Health Sciences physicians and medical students in Remote Area Medical/Los Angeles, a week-long free health clinic providing care for the uninsured. Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor of family medicine and organizer of the contingent from the David Geffen School of Medicine, was interviewed April 27 on a KFVB 980AM report about the event. More than 150 volunteers -- which also included physicians, students and nurses from the Jules Stein Eye Institute, the School of Nursing and the School of Dentistry -- participated in the event.

"South Bay Health Professionals Pitch in at Sports Arena Event"

http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/cj_14970390

"Family of doctors volunteers at L.A. Free Clinic"

<http://www.latimes.com/news/custom/topofthetimes/topstories/la-me-free-clinic-20100430,0,550712.story>

HealthDay Explores Seniors' At-Risk Drinking

HealthDay News reported April 28 on research led by Andrew Barnes, a researcher in the UCLA School of Public Health's department of health services, suggesting that up to one-third of seniors are at-risk drinkers, due to excessive drinking or doing so while taking medications or having certain health conditions. The study was published online in the Journal of General Internal Medicine. Numerous outlets carried the HealthDay report, including Consumer Affairs, EmpowHER.com, MentalHelp.net, HealthScout, ConsumerSafety.org, and others.

"Even Moderate Drinking Puts Many Older Adults at Risk"

<http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=638473>

LA Times Special Insert Highlights UCLA Transplant Programs

An April 30 special insert in the Los Angeles Times highlighted UCLA's transplant programs. The section included an interview with Dr. Abbas Ardehali, surgical director of the UCLA Heart and Lung Transplant program. In addition, the story of a UCLA patient who received a lifesaving liver transplant was profiled – and the cover featured a photograph from the 2009 "Picnic in the Park" celebrating the liver transplant program's 25th anniversary.

"Organ Transplants"

http://www.uclahealth.org/workfiles/ad/043010_LATimes_OrganTransplants_SpecialSection.pdf

Media Explains Trigeminal Neuralgia

Dr. Neil Martin, chair and professor of neurosurgery, and his patient suffering from trigeminal neuralgia was featured April 26 and 27 in news segments on WFTX-Channel 4 (FL) and WTAJ-Channel 10 (PA). Martin discussed the disorder, and his surgical intervention that corrected it.

“New Hope for Patients with “Suicide Disease”

<http://www.fox4now.com/Global/story.asp?S=12379318>

Huffington Post Prints Prof’s Panned Opinion Piece

Dr. Susan Smalley, professor of psychiatry and founder of the Mindful Awareness Research Center, published a column about mindfulness meditation -- the practice of being present with experience in a curious and open way -- in the April 23 Huffington Post.

“Mindfulness Meditation and Carl Jung’s Red Book”

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/susan-smalley/mindfulness-meditation-an_b_548070.html

London Independent, NBC Affiliate Explain “Fat” Gene Link to Brain Tissue Loss

Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, was featured April 23 in the London Independent and April 26 on NBC affiliate KCBD-Channel 11 (Texas) about his lab’s finding that the so-called “FTO gene,” known to cause weight gain in more than a third of the U.S. population, is also associated with a loss of brain tissue.

“Are You Wired to be Fat and Forgetful?”

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/are-you-wired-to-be-fat-and-forgetful-1952631.html>

Fox News Learns about the Brain

Joseph Watson, professor of psychiatry and the outreach program director for the Brain Research Institute (BRI), was featured in an April 23 KTTV-Channel 11 news segment about the BRI’s Brain Awareness Week, where students from schools in Los Angeles County toured the BRI to learn about the brain.

Media Cover Sentencing of Former Researcher for Records Breach

The Associated Press, Los Angeles Daily News, a Los Angeles Times blog and other news outlets on April 27 and 28 reported that a former UCLA researcher was sentenced to four months in federal prison for illegally accessing the confidential medical records of high-profile patients while working at UCLA Medical Center in 2003.

“Former UCLA Researcher Sentenced for Snooping in Celebrity Files”

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2010/04/former-ucla-researcher-sentenced-for-snooping-in-celebrity-files.html>

“UCLA Researcher Gets Jail for Snooping into Celebrity Medical Records”

http://www.ktla.com/news/landing/ktla-ucla-medical-records_0,5682431.story

“Health Worker is First HIPAA Privacy Violator to Get Jail Time”

<http://www.scmagazineus.com/health-worker-is-first-hipaa-privacy-violator-to-get-jail-time/article/168894/>

“Prison for HIPAA Privacy Violator”

http://www.healthdatamanagement.com/news/hipaa_privacy-violation-conviction-breach-40202-1.html

Local Papers Run Column on Valley Fever

The Daily News, Pasadena Star-News, Daily Bulletin, San Bernardino Sun, Long Beach Press-Telegram and others on April 28 ran a syndicated column by Dr. Claire Panosian, professor of medicine, division of infectious diseases on the incidence, prevention and symptoms of Valley Fever.

“Breathing Clear: Avoid Inhaling Valley Fever Spores”

http://www.dailynews.com/search/ci_14979621?source=email

Investors Daily, Discovery News Report on Antidepressants and Suicide

Aimee Hunter, a research psychologist at the Semel Institute, was featured in an April 22 Investors Daily article and an April 23 Discovery News article about her research that uses quantitative

electroencephalography (QEEG) to predict which people might be most susceptible to antidepressant-induced suicide.

“Brain Scan May Spot Suicide Risk”

<http://www.investors.com/NewsAndAnalysis/Article.aspx?id=531055>

“Images of Suicidal Thoughts”

<http://news.discovery.com/tech/images-of-suicidal-thoughts.html>

Community Papers Cover Recruitment for Smoking Cessation Vaccine

The Signal Tribune on April 23 and the Thousand Oaks Acorn on April 29 covered study recruitment for an experimental vaccine designed to help smokers quit. Dr. Donald Tashkin, principal investigator and professor of pulmonary and critical care medicine, was quoted.

“UCLA Seeks Smokers for Study Testing Cessation Vaccine”

<http://www.signaltribunenewspaper.com/archives/6304>

“UCLA Seeks Smokers for Vaccine Study”

http://www.toacorn.com/news/2010-04-29/Community/UCLA_seeks_smokers_for_vaccine_study.html

Breast Cancer Research Explored

The breast cancer research of Dr. Dennis Slamon, funded by Stand Up 2 Cancer, was detailed by GenomeWeb.com. Slamon is director of clinical/translational research at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

“‘Dream Teams’ Stand Up to Cancer”

<http://www.genomeweb.com/blog/aacr-dream-teams-stand-cancer>

Conference News Website Highlights Study on Two Procedures for Stroke Prevention

CX News on April 10, a website offering highlights from the International Vascular Symposium in London, featured Dr. Wesley Moore, professor of vascular surgery, who presented a major study finding that both surgery and carotid artery stenting were both safe and effective for stroke prevention. Moore was the national surgical director for the clinical trial and the principal investigator at UCLA.

“Another Spin on CREST”

<http://www.cxvascular.com/dn-latest-news/cx-daily-news---latest-news/another-spin-on-crest?newsletterRef=1>

So Cal Minds Spotlights Donation to UCLA’s Operation Mend

The So Cal Minds blog on April 13 highlighted a recent \$4 million donation made by the Lockheed Martin Corporation to help support the Operation Mend program at UCLA which provides reconstructive surgery and other medical services to men and women wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“\$4 Million Gift to Aid Warriors Wounded Overseas”

<http://www.socalminds.com/2010/04/4-million-gift-to-aid-warriors-wounded-overseas.html>

Local Blog Covers Marathon Runner’s Road to Recovery

So Cal Minds on April 2 reported on a 21-year-old runner who suffered near-fatal cardiac arrest during the Los Angeles Marathon and thanked the off-duty UCLA surgeon, police officer and UCLA neurologist who played a key role in his recovery at a press conference at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center.

“He’s Doing Fine after Cardiac Arrest in Marathon”

<http://www.socalminds.com/2010/04/hes-recovering-after-marathon-cardiac-arrest.html>

Women’s Health Site Profiles Obstetrician

Womens-eNews.org carried an April 28 article highlighting the pioneering research conducted by Dr. Michael Lu, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, into racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health and infant mortality. Lu was quoted. Lu was also quoted in an April 23 EmpowHER.com article about potential health risks to women who train and run marathons primarily to lose weight.

“Dr. Lu Puts ‘M’ Back in Maternal, Child Care”

<http://www.womensenews.org/story/reproductive-health/100427/dr-lu-puts-m-back-in-maternal-child-care>

“Women Running Marathons: Health Risks”

<http://www.empowher.com/news/herarticle/2010/04/23/women-running-marathons-health-risks>

BRIEFS

Comments by Dr. Neil Martin, chair and professor of neurosurgery, about the subarachnoid brain hemorrhage suffered by rock star Bret Michaels, were used in an April 26 News segment on NBC affiliate WMAQ-Channel 5 (Chicago).

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was cited in an April 21 Ventura County Star article and on KTLA-Channel 5 news on April 23 in a story about a group of local kids who put together a concert to raise funds for the hospital's pediatric cancer research department.

"T.O. Boy Creates Shredfest to Raise Money for Cancer Research"

<http://www.vcstar.com/news/2010/apr/21/to-boy-creates-shredfest-raise-money-for-cancer/>

An April 28 column in the Merced Sun Star on Cinco de Mayo cites research by David Hayes-Bautista, professor of general internal medicine and health services research and director of the UCLA Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, on the origin of Cinco de Mayo celebrations.

"Cinco de Mayo Tacos"

<http://www.mercedsunstar.com/2010/04/28/1402458/cinco-de-mayo-tacos.html>

The online edition of the Beverly Hills Courier reported that a marathon team raised \$58,000 for Lupus LA, a local foundation founded by Dr. Daniel Wallace, clinical professor of medicine.

"'Life Without Lupus' Completes Race"

http://67.59.172.92/article/Local_News/Local_News/Life_Without_Lupus_Completes_Race/67139

QUOTABLES

Dr. David Baron, chief of staff at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, commented in an April 23 KNX 1070AM report about a "killer fungus" that is causing curiosity within the medical community.

"Killer Fungus (Sort Of) Reportedly Spreads into CA"

<http://www.knx1070.com/Killer-Fungus--Sort-Of--Reportedly-Spreads-into-CA/6878132>

Dr. Gregory Cole, professor of medicine and neurology and associate director of UCLA's Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an April 29 HealthDay News article about research showing that, rather than stationary plaques, "floating" clumps of amyloid beta proteins could be the prime cause of Alzheimer's Disease.

"New Finding Could Mark Shift in Alzheimer's Research"

http://news.yahoo.com/s/hsn/20100429/hl_hsn/newfindingcouldmarkshiftinalzheimersresearch

Dr. Eric Esrailian, assistant clinical professor of medicine, division of digestive diseases, commented April 28 in the Los Angeles Times regarding research showing that sigmoidoscopies can reduce deaths from colorectal cancer by at least 43 percent.

"Test Linked to Fewer Colorectal Cancer Deaths"

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-sci-colon-20100427,0,2081124.story>

Christopher Evans, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Brain Research Institute, was quoted in an April 25 Nature article about a study suggesting that mammals may possess the biochemical materials to produce morphine.

"Mice May Make Morphine"

<http://www.nature.com/news/2010/100426/full/news.2010.202.html>

Dr. Timothy Fong, assistant professor of psychiatry and co-director of the addiction medicine clinic at the Semel Institute, was quoted in two articles on Medscape.com; one about the failure of the drug Vigabatrin in treating cocaine, the other about a study looking at preteen marijuana use.

"Vigabatrin Fails to Achieve Efficacy for Cocaine Dependence in Phase 2 US Trial"

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/720732>

"Preteen Marijuana Use Linked to Comorbid Substance Abuse and Psychological Disorders"

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/720652>

Shana Alex Lavarreda, director of health insurance studies at the Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health, was quoted in an April 22 Ventura County Star article on how health care reform will affect local businesses.

“Employer Worries about Enrollment Quota”

<http://www.vcstar.com/news/2010/apr/22/no-headline---nxxfhealthquest23/>

Dr. Susan Love, clinical professor of surgery, commented April 28 in the New York Times regarding a new study identifying biomarkers for an early form of breast cancer, which may help guide treatment.

“A Study Offers Clues on Therapy for Breast Cancer”

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/29/science/29breast.html?partner=MOREOVERNEWS&ei=5040>

Dr. Roy Meals, clinical professor of orthopaedic surgery, was quoted April 27 in a KTLA-Channel 5 report on a recently FDA-approved drug that treats Dupuytren's disease, a condition that forces fingers to permanently curl. Meals was one of the investigators in the clinical trial.

“New Alternative to Surgery for Debilitating Hand Condition”

<http://www.ktla.com/videobeta/09507851-c5d6-4ffd-9d1a-63d9ecf57be7/Health/KTLA-Health-New-Alternative-To-Surgery-For-Debilitating-Hand-Condition>

Steven Nusinowitz, associate professor of ophthalmology at the Jules Stein Eye Institute, commented in an April 23 CNN.com story about how the eyes interact with the brain when watching 3-D movies or television and why the effect can cause dizziness or other health complaints. The article also appeared on the website for the ABC affiliate in Charleston, NC.

“Can 3-D Movies, Television Make You Sick?”

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/04/23/3d.vision.brain/index.html>

Nadereh Pourat, director of research planning at the Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health was quoted in the April 27 La Opinión about individuals using the Internet to answer health- and medical-related questions.

“Primero está el Internet, Luego van al Doctor”

<http://www.impre.com/noticias/2010/4/27/primero-esta-el-internet-luego-185434-1.html>

Dr. Sammy Saab, associate professor of hepatology and surgery, commented April 28 in Associated Press and AP Radio reports on a New England Journal of Medicine study finding that vitamin E might benefit patients with obesity-related liver disease.

“Vitamin E May Be New Boon for Liver Disease”

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/36833372/ns/health-alternative_medicine/

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, commented April 26 in a CNN.com story about supplements and vitamins some Alzheimer's disease patients take to fight memory loss. In addition, Small commented April 28 in an Examiner.com article about lifestyle strategies to keep the brain healthy.

“Despite Widespread Claims, Little Proof for Brain Supplements”

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/04/26/supplements.brain.alzheimers.dementia/index.html?hpt=T2>

“Older and Wiser: How to Keep our Brains Strong and Healthy as We Age”

<http://www.examiner.com/x-33110-Mind-and-Body-Examiner-y2010m4d28-Older-and-wiser-How-to-keep-our-brains-strong-and-healthy-as-we-age?cid=edition-by-channel-rss-National-Health>

=====

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 Rachel Champeau, assistant director, 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.