



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of April 25-May 1, 2014**

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U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer Touts Efforts to Reduce Hospital Errors

The [Los Angeles Times](#), Los Angeles [Daily News](#), [City News Service](#), [KPCC 89.3FM](#), [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KNBC-Channel 4](#), [KTLA-Channel 5](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [KCAL-Channel 9](#), and [KTTV-Channel 11](#), among others, April 25; and [Westside Today](#), Orange County Register, KNX 1070AM, KFI 640AM, and other news outlets April 26 reported about a news conference held at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center by U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer where she presented the findings of her report detailing the most common and harmful errors at our nation's hospitals and what hospitals in California are doing to prevent them. She also noted steps UCLA has already implemented to prevent medical errors that could serve as models for other hospitals around the country. Boxer toured the medical center with hospital leadership so she could see for herself two systems being used to prevent medical errors. Boxer was first shown a barcode technology and electronic medical records system used at UCLA to ensure patients receive the right medications in the right doses at the correct times. UCLA nurses were heavily involved in the development of the barcode system. Boxer then went to the seventh floor ICU to see the medical center's ultra-violet disinfection system in action. Hospital officials and staff were highlighted in several photos and video segments. Dr. David Feinberg, president, UCLA Health System and CEO, UCLA Hospital System, was interviewed by [KNBC-Channel 4](#).

Media Devour Statins and Fat

[USA Today](#), and [Examiner.com](#), April 24; the [Los Angeles Times](#), [CBS Evening News](#), [CBS Newspath](#), [Reuters Health](#), [Associated Press](#), [HealthDay News](#), [Investor's Business Daily](#), [University Herald](#), [Medical Daily](#), [YottaFire](#) and [Health Canal](#) April 25; [Cardiology Today](#), [Sierra Sun Times](#), [Liberty Voice](#) and [Tech Times](#) April 26; [Consumer Affairs](#), [Hot MedFax](#), [ThirdAge.com](#), [BrightSurf.com](#), and [redOrbit](#) April 28, [domain-b](#) April 29 and [DailyRx](#) April 30, among many other news outlets, reported on a study co-authored by Dr. Martin Shapiro, chief of the division of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that people who take statins now are consuming more fat and calories, and weigh more, than statin users did 10 years prior—suggesting that people who take the cholesterol-lowering drug have a false sense of security about what they can eat. The CBS Newspath story was carried by many CBS affiliates across the country, including [WCAX-TV](#) (Burlington, Vt.), [WMBD-TV](#) (Peoria, Ill.), [WSAW](#) (Wausau, Wis.), [KOLR-TV](#) (Springfield, Mo.), [WIVB-TV](#) (Buffalo, N.Y.), [WOWK-TV](#) (Charleston, W.Va.), [WSHM-TV](#) (Springfield, Mass.), and others. Shapiro and lead author Dr. Takehiro Sugiyama, who conducted the research while a visiting scholar in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, were quoted in the coverage.

Wall Street Journal Spotlights UCLA's Teen and Young Adult Cancer Program

UCLA's Daltrey/Townshend Teen & Young Adult Cancer Program was featured in an April 29 [Wall Street Journal](#) article on hospitals providing specialized care for teen and young adults with cancer. The article highlighted UCLA's leading role with the opening of a dedicated inpatient unit and lounge at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Dr. David Feinberg, president, UCLA Health System and CEO, UCLA Hospital System, was referenced in the story, and Dr. Jacqueline Casillas, medical director of the program, was quoted along with a current UCLA patient. The UCLA program and another UCLA patient were highlighted in an accompanying [WSJ.com blog post](#).

Hunting Down Huntington's in the Brain

A UCLA study that sheds light on where Huntington's disease starts in the brain, suggesting new targets for treatment, was covered April 28 by [Examiner.com](#), [News Max Health](#), [Science Daily](#), [Science Blog](#), [MedicalXpress](#) and [BioScience Technology](#), and April 29 by India's [Pune Mirror](#), [Med India](#) and [Science World Report](#). The research was led by X. William Yang, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, and Nan Wang, a postdoctoral researcher in his lab. The findings were published April 28 in the online edition of *Nature Medicine*.

Media Report on New Drug to Thwart MS

Dr. Rhonda Voskuhl, professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Multiple Sclerosis Program, was featured in the media regarding the results of her clinical trial on the use of the female hormone estriol to treat relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis (MS). Combining estriol with a standard MS drug, Copaxone, resulted in a near 50 percent reduction in the relapse rate in the first year compared to Copaxone and placebo. Coverage included April 29 on [KABC-Channel 7](#), [StreetInsider.com](#) and [ScienceWorldReport.com](#); April 30 in the [Wall Street Journal](#), [Medscape News](#), [eMaxHealth.com](#), and [HealthCanal](#), and May 1 in [NeuroNews.com](#) and [Medical News Today](#).

Top Media Spotlight 2014 Taste for a Cure Gala

[Variety](#) April 27; [Hollywood Reporter](#), [Los Angeles Times](#), [Huffington Post](#) and [Perez Hilton](#) April 26, and [Los Angeles Magazine](#) and [Telefilm Central](#) April 30 covered UCLA Jonsson Cancer Center Foundation's 19th annual Taste for a Cure event. The star-studded gala honoring Sony Pictures TV president Steve Mosko raised over \$700,000 for high-priority cancer research, attracting Hollywood elite with featured performances from the cast of Fox TV's "Glee."

Build Muscle and Live Longer

[Medical Conditions and Diseases](#) reported April 29 on research by Dr. Preethi Srikanthan, assistant professor of medicine in the division of endocrinology, and Dr. Arun Karlamangla, professor of medicine in the division of geriatrics, indicating that greater muscle mass may be a more important factor in preventing premature death among older Americans than a good body mass index.

GlobalPost Spotlights Social Media and HIV Prevention

An April 30 article in the [GlobalPost](#) highlighted ongoing research by Dr. Sean Young, assistant professor of family medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and co-director of the Center for Digital Behavior at UCLA, into the use of social media such as Facebook as a tool for HIV/AIDS education and prevention. Young was quoted.

New York Times Spotlights Little-Known E-Cigarette Study

The [New York Times](#) April 15 covered a little-known study on the potential of nicotine-laced vapor generated by an electronic cigarette to promote the development of cancer in certain types of human cells much in the same way that tobacco smoke does. Dr. Steven Dubinett, member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, was quoted.

The Lancet Lauds UCLA Center's Launch

The opening of the UCLA Center for World Health was covered in an April 26 commentary in [The Lancet](#) by its editor-in-chief, Richard Horton. He also spoke on a panel at the event, which focused on achieving equitable healthcare and long lifespans for everyone around the globe by 2035. Dr. Thomas Coates, director of the center and UCLA's Michael and Sue Steinberg Endowed Professor of Global AIDS Research, was cited.

Trades Profile Spine Surgeon

Dr. Daniel Lu, an assistant professor of neurosurgery and orthopaedic surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a member of the UCLA Spine Center, was profiled in the April 30 edition of [Becker's Spine](#) and the April edition of [Spinal Surgery Today](#). The articles covered his research exploring new approaches to helping patients regain the use of their hands following cervical spinal-cord injury.

UCLA Returns Donation

The April 29 [Los Angeles Times](#) reported that UCLA announced it would return a \$425,000 donation Clippers owner Donald Sterling made for kidney research. The university's statement said that Sterling's words showed he "does not share UCLA's core values as a university that fosters diversity, inclusion and respect." The [Associated Press](#), [Time](#), [USA Today](#), [Chronicle of Higher Education](#), [KCBS-Channel 2](#) and numerous other news outlets also reported April 29 on the returned donation.

California Health Report Cites New Theory about Alzheimer's

Dr. Dale Bredesen, professor of neurology and director of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research, was featured in the April 27 [California Health Report](#) regarding his theory that

Alzheimer's disease is caused by a combination of complex chronic imbalances in the brain and that treating the disease requires a broad, integrative approach.

KFWB Explains Why Baby Boomers are Moving in with Mom and Dad

Dr. Steven Wallace, associate director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured in an April 30 interview on [KFWB 980AM](#) about a growing number of Californians between the ages of 50 to 64 that have been painfully moving back home to live with their parents due to economic hardship. The study was also referenced in an April 30 [CBS News](#) segment.

Health Newsletter Discusses Rates of HIV and Black Women

Dr. Gail Wyatt, professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Sexual Health Program at the Semel Institute, and associate director, UCLA AIDS Institute, was featured in the Quarterly newsletter for the Georgia State Health Department regarding the high rates of HIV in African-American women.

Thalians Raise Funds for Operation Mend

The [Beverly Hills Courier](#) and [KTTV-Channel 11](#) reported April 28 on the 56th annual Thalians gala to support mental health services offered to patients in the UCLA Operation Mend program. The gala, which honored music legend Smokey Robinson, raised \$1 million for the program. UCLA Operation Mend offers reconstructive surgery and other medical and mental health services to our nation's wounded warriors injured in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Thalians are a Hollywood-based nonprofit organization dedicated to the treatment of mental health.

Should California Strengthen Immunization Rules?

Dr. James Cherry, distinguished research professor of pediatrics and attending physician of pediatric infectious diseases at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, authored a column April 28 in [California Healthline's "Think Tank"](#) series about why all children should be vaccinated.

Crowdfunding for Art Therapy

[News-Medical.net](#) reported April 28 on a new UCLA Spark crowdfunding campaign called "Heal My Heart with Art" that aims to raise \$5,000 for an art therapy program benefitting advanced heart failure and heart transplant patients at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Dr. Mario Deng, professor of medicine and medical director of the Advanced Heart Failure, Mechanical Support and Heart Transplant program at UCLA, and Dr. Martin Cadeiras, assistant professor of medicine at UCLA, were quoted.

"Posters on the Hill" Attracts Attention

[Examiner.com](#), [Science Codex](#) and [Phys.org](#) April 28 reported on a UCLA research team that traveled to Capitol Hill to present their epilepsy research. Graduate student Wesley Kerr was quoted.

FOX News Covers Whooping Cough

A [KTTV-Channel 11](#) news story that aired April 23 and 27 about an upswing in whooping cough cases and the importance of vaccinations featured an interview with Dr. Mark Morocco, clinical professor of emergency medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center.

Continued Coverage on Civil Court Case Settlement

The April 25 [Los Angeles Times](#) continued its reporting on a settlement by the UC Regents for \$10 million that ended a civil court case brought by the former chair of UCLA's orthopaedic surgery department who alleged that the medical school allowed its faculty to take industry payments that may have been a conflict of interest. The settlement between the UC system and the former head of orthopedic surgery has prompted a consumer group to seek an independent investigation by California Atty. Gen. Kamala Harris or Gov. Jerry Brown.

BRIEFS

During April 27 [Al Jazeera](#) and April 29 [Fox Business News](#) interviews, Dr. Dean Ornish mentioned UCLA's participation in the Dr. Dean Ornish Program for Reversing Heart Disease. The program assists patients in improving diet and physical activity, reducing stress and offers other support.

QUOTABLES

Dr. John Bartlett, chief of the University Ophthalmology Associates practice at the Stein Eye Institute at UCLA, commented April 3 in [Medscape Medical News](#) about the American Academy of Ophthalmology launching a new registry to harness data from millions of patients and inform ophthalmologists how their patient outcomes compare with those of their colleagues around the nation.

Tom Donohoe, director of the UCLA Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center and associate professor of family medicine, commented April 24 in an [Estrella TV](#) news report linked to the 30th anniversary of the identification of the virus that causes AIDS on how the disease has impacted Latinos and the need for routine HIV testing and earlier detection.

Dr. John Froines, professor emeritus of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in the April 25 [Huffington Post](#) about the use of leaded gasoline in prop planes at Santa Monica airport.

Dr. A. Nick Shamie, orthopaedic spine surgeon and associate clinical professor with the UCLA Spine Center in Santa Monica, was quoted in the May issue of [Redbook](#) on what advice spine doctors give their friends and families to prevent back pain.

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