



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of April 29 – May 5, 2011**

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NPR, USA Today Explore Awake Rats' Slumbering Brain Cells

Local Media Spotlight Operation Mend Benefit

L.A. Times Outlines Best Exercises for MS

Scientific Magazine Profiles Groundbreaking Physiologist

Immune System Alarm Clock Attracts Headlines

Reuters Health Investigates Colonoscopy Timing

MedPage Examines Heart Failure Treatment Guidelines

HealthDay Reports on NIMH Couples Study

Medscape Touts Radiologists' Role in Healthcare Policy

Launch of Stem Cell Trial for Vision Loss Draws Press

IT Trade Spotlights Pathologists' Work in China

EFE Reports on Postpartum Depression in Abused Latinas

ANI Covers Potential Diabetes Therapy

Santa Maria Times Weighs Californians' Diabetes, Obesity

Wires Rank Pistachios over Pretzels for Weight Control

Community Newspapers Spotlight National Children's Study

BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

NPR, USA Today Explore Awake Rats' Slumbering Brain Cells

Christopher Colwell, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was interviewed April 28 by Agence France Press and April 29 by National Public Radio's "Talk of The Nation" and USA Today about research showing that neurons in the brains of sleep-deprived rats can enter a sleeplike state even when the rats are awake.

"Sleep-Deprived Rats Take "Brain Naps"

<http://www.npr.org/2011/04/29/135841000/sleep-deprived-rats-take-brain-naps>

"Brain May Go Off-line with Lack of Sleep"

http://www.usatoday.com/news/usaedition/2011-04-29-sleepingrats29-st_st_u.htm

"Caught Napping: can we be Awake and Asleep at the same Time?"

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/breakingnews/world/view/20110428-333391/Caught-napping-Can-we-be-awake-and-asleep-at-the-same-time>

Local Media Spotlight Operation Mend Benefit

KCBS-Channel 2, KABC-Channel 7, KCAL-Channel 9 and KNX 1070AM reported April 30 and the Beverly Hills Courier reported April 29 on a gala by The Thaliens, an entertainment non-profit dedicated to the treatment of mental health. Dr. Timothy Miller, executive director of Operation Mend, was honored for performing reconstructive surgery to heal soldiers injured in Iraq and Afghanistan. The April 30 event benefited The Thaliens and Operation Mend. Miller was interviewed by KABC and KNX.

"Thaliens Honor Hugh Hefner as 'Mr. Wonderful'"

http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/hollywood_wrap&id=8105150

"George Christy Talks about Greek Easter, Tom Hanks, the Three Stooges, Keith Richards and More!"

http://www.bhcourier.com/article/George_Christy_Archive/George_Christy_Talks_About_Greek_Easter_Tom_Hanks_The_Three_Stooges_Keith_Richards_And_More/75789

L.A. Times Outlines Best Exercises for MS

Dr. Barbara Giesser, professor of neurology and medical director of the Marilyn Hilton MS Achievement Center at UCLA, was featured in a May 2 Los Angeles Times live webcast about the best exercises for people with multiple sclerosis. Giesser responded to questions submitted by readers.

"Live Chat: Best Exercises for People with Multiple Sclerosis"

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-health-chat-barbara-giesser-20110502.0.2988392.print.htmlstory>

Scientific Magazine Profiles Groundbreaking Physiologist

The May 1 edition of The Scientist profiled Ronald Kaback, professor of physiology, microbiology and molecular genetics, and his innovative research that explores how cells use proteins to move sugars and other key molecules across their membranes. Kaback was quoted.

"Making the Gradient"

<http://www.the-scientist.com/2011/5/1/52/1/>

Immune System Alarm Clock Attracts Headlines

The discovery of a new way to wake up the immune system using nanoparticle vaults was covered May 3 by Examiner.com, PhysOrg.com and Genetic Engineering News; May 4 by Drug Discovery & Development, FierceDrug Delivery.com, MedIndia.com and CancerNetwork.com; and May 5 by Ivanhoe News and the New Haven Independent. Leonard Rome, associate director of the California NanoSystems Institute, Steven Dubinett, director of the lung cancer program at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, and Sherven Sharma, professor of pulmonary and critical care medicine, were quoted.

"Cancer Fight 'Vaults' Ahead"

http://www.newhavenindependent.org/index.php/archives/entry/going_to_the_vault_to_fight_cancer/id_36203

"Immune System Could Help Fight Lung Cancer"

http://www.ivanhoe.com/channels/p_channelstory.cfm?storyid=26958

"UCLA Discovers New Method to Combat Lung Cancer"

<http://www.examiner.com/health-in-los-angeles/ucla-discovers-new-method-to-combat-lung-cancer>

"Investigators Bank on Chemokine-Loaded Nanovaults for Treating Lung Cancer"

<http://www.genengnews.com/gen-news-highlights/investigators-bank-on-chemokine-loaded-nanovaults-for-treating-lung-cancer/81245097/>

Reuters Health Investigates Colonoscopy Timing

An April 28 Reuters Health story cited a 2009 UCLA/VA study finding that early-morning colonoscopies yield more polyps per patient than procedures performed later in the day. Recent studies from other institutions have validated the findings. Dr. Brennan Spiegel, associate professor of digestive diseases and director of the UCLA/VA Center for Outcomes Research and Education, was quoted.

“Doctors Less Deft at Colonoscopy as Day Goes On”

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/04/28/us-colonoscopy-idUSTRE73R6MK20110428>

MedPage Examines Heart Failure Treatment Guidelines

An April 28 MedPage Today article featured a UCLA-led study finding that following national guideline-recommended therapies for heart failure significantly lowered patients' mortality rates in an outpatient practice setting. Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted.

“HF Performance Measures Work in 'Real World'”

<http://www.medpagetoday.com/Cardiology/CHF/26174>

HealthDay Reports on NIMH Couples Study

HealthDay News reported April 25 on a National Institute of Mental Health trial, which includes UCLA as a site, finding that a program promoting healthy lifestyle choices can help prevent chronic disease in African American couples in which one partner has HIV and the other does not. The findings were published April 25 by the Archives of Internal Medicine.

“Pushing Healthy Lifestyle Cuts Risk of Chronic Disease for Blacks: Study”

<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/cancer/articles/2011/04/25/pushing-healthy-lifestyle-cuts-risk-of-chronic-disease-for-blacks-study>

Medscape Touts Radiologists' Role in Healthcare Policy

Medscape News ran an April 28 story highlighting a review article co-authored by Dr. Christoph Lee, a Robert Wood Johnson scholar in the departments of radiological sciences and internal medicine, advocating a greater role by radiologists in health services and the formation of health policy. The article appeared in the May issue of the American Journal of Roentgenology.

“Radiologists Need to Engage in Health Services Research”

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/741781>

Launch of Stem Cell Trial for Vision Loss Draws Press

An announcement that UCLA's Jules Stein Eye Institute received approval to serve as a clinical trial site testing human embryonic stem cell products to address vision loss from retinal diseases was reported May 2 by Drug Discovery & Development, and April 28 by Proactive Investors and the Worcester Telegram. Principal investigator Dr. Steven Schwartz, Ahmanson Professor of Ophthalmology and chief of the retina division, was quoted.

“UCLA Receives IRB Approval for ACT Trial”

<http://www.dddmag.com/news-UCLA-Receives-IRB-Approval-for-ACT-Trial-5211.aspx>

“Advanced Cell Technology Receives Approval for Clinical Trial Location”

<http://www.proactiveinvestors.com/companies/news/14152/advanced-cell-technology-receives-approval-for-clinical-trial-location-14152.html>

“Advanced Cell Treatment Trial OK'd”

<http://www.telegram.com/article/20110428/NEWS/110429673/1002/business>

IT Trade Spotlights Pathologists' Work in China

Healthcare IT News reported April 27 about scanning technology that enables pathologists at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center to advise their peers on more than 100 cases at a hospital in China. Dr. Jonathan Braun, chair of pathology/laboratory medicine and a professor of molecular and medical pharmacology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

“Telemedicine Drives Image Sharing Around the World”

<http://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/telemedicine-drives-image-sharing-around-world>

EFE Reports on Postpartum Depression in Abused Latinas

EFE News reported May 5 on research from the UCLA Center for Culture, Trauma and Mental Health Disparities finding that Latinas who endure domestic violence within a year of pregnancy are five times more likely to suffer from postpartum depression. Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor of family medicine, was quoted.

“Violencia Doméstica Aumenta Posibilidad de Depresión Posparto Entre Hispanas”

<http://ve.noticias.yahoo.com/violencia-dom%C3%A9stica-aumenta-posibilidad-depresi%C3%B3n-posparto-hispanas-213900510.html>

ANI Covers Potential Diabetes Therapy

EndocrineWeb reported April 29 and Asian News International reported April 30 on research from the Larry L. Hillblom Islet Research Center at UCLA that identified a possible means of converting cells in the body into insulin-producing pancreatic cells, providing a potential therapy for diabetes. The ANI article also appeared online in TruthDive, Zeenews, A Sweet Life, Sify News and other news websites. Anil Bhushan, assistant professor of endocrinology, was quoted.

“Mechanism that Could Provide Potential Cure for Diabetes Identified”

<http://sg.news.yahoo.com/mechanism-could-potential-cure-diabetes-identified-062946132.html>

“New Study Shows it May be Possible to Turn Pancreatic Cells into Insulin Producers in People with Type 1 Diabetes”

<http://www.endocrineweb.com/news/type-1-diabetes/5489-new-study-shows-it-may-be-possible-turn-pancreatic-cells-insulin-producers>

Santa Maria Times Weighs Californians’ Diabetes, Obesity

The Santa Maria Times reported May 1 on a UCLA Center for Health Policy Research study led by Dr. Allison Diamant, assistant adjunct professor of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that most Californian adults are obese or overweight and more than two million have been diagnosed with diabetes.

“The Hefting of America”

http://santamariatimes.com/news/opinion/mailbag/article_4dd3dfba-73a8-11e0-bef4-001cc4c03286.html

Wires Rank Pistachios over Pretzels for Weight Control

May 3 Asian News International and May 4 Indo-Asian News Service stories reported on a study by Dr. David Heber, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, finding that people who snacked on pistachios rather than pretzels were better able to control their body mass index levels in a weight-management program. Heber was quoted.

“Pistachios, Not Pretzels, are Weight-Loss Snack!”

http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/health/pistachios-not-pretzels-are-weight-loss-snack_100533347.html

“Pistachios Pip Pretzel as Weight-Loss Snack”

<http://in.news.yahoo.com/pistachios-pip-pretzel-weight-loss-snack-054321349.html>

Community Newspapers Spotlight National Children’s Study

Eastern Group Publications and the AOL’s Highland Park Patch reported April 28 that the National Children’s Study will officially launch at the International Children’s Day Festival in Highland Park on April 30. Led by the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities, the study will focus on environmental factors’ influence on children’s health and development.

“Highland Park Selected to Participate in National Children’s Health Study”

<http://egpnews.com/?p=25221>

“Photo Gallery: International Children’s Day Celebrated in Highland Park”

<http://highlandpark-ca.patch.com/articles/photo-gallery-international-childrens-day-celebrated-in-highland-park#photo-5857500>

BRIEFS

The Palisadian Post cited Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA in an April 28 story about a local teenager treated for leukemia at UCLA who went to New York to record two songs through the Make-A-Wish program.

“Leukemia Survivor Tae-Leon Records 2 Songs in New York”

<http://www.palisadespost.com/news/content.php?id=6596>

QUOTABLES

Gail Abarbanel, director of the rape treatment center at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted in an April 28 Los Angeles Times story about the Los Angeles police department clearing its backlog of unprocessed rape kits.

“LAPD Closes Backlog of Untested Rape Kits”

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-lapd-dna-20110427,0,4624104.story>

Dr. Arthur Brody, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a May 3 Asian News International article about research showing that exposure to secondhand smoke evokes tobacco cravings in smokers.

“How Second-hand Smoke May Increase Vulnerability to Nicotine Addiction”

http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/health/how-second-hand-smoke-may-increase-vulnerability-to-nicotine-addiction_100532993.html

Dr. Ravi Dave, staff cardiologist at Santa Monica–UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital and associate clinical professor of medicine, commented April 28 in two WebMD articles about research indicating that an osteoporosis drug may boost the effects of cholesterol-lowering medication and that tall and obese men may be more susceptible to blood clots.

“Drugs for Bone Loss May Also Help the Heart”

<http://www.webmd.com/cholesterol-management/news/20110428/drugs-for-bone-loss-may-also-help-the-heart>

“Being Tall, Obese May Boost Risk of Blood Clots”

<http://www.webmd.com/dvt/news/20110428/being-tall-obese-may-boost-risk-of-blood-clots>

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented April 29 in HealthDay News about a study finding that coating stents with two chemicals found in red wine helped improve their effectiveness. He also was quoted in a May 5 HealthDay News story about screening teen’s hearts with an electrocardiogram.

“Could Chemicals in Wine Improve Stent Performance?”

<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/heart/articles/2011/04/29/could-chemicals-in-wine-improve-stent-performance>

“Screening Teen’s Hearts Could be Lifesaving”

<http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=652657>

Dr. Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an April 27 Ventura County Star article about a proposed plan to raise the national retirement age.

“The Human Cost of Raising the Retirement Age”

<http://www.vcstar.com/news/2011/apr/27/the-human-cost-of-raising-the-retirement-age/>

Dr. Neil Martin, professor of neurosurgery and co-director of the UCLA Stroke Center, commented May 5 in online CNN and Health.com reports about new research finding that everyday activities that cause blood pressure to spike may briefly raise the risk of a burst aneurysm in certain people.

“Coffee, Exercise May Raise Stroke Risk for Some”

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/HEALTH/05/05/coffee.exercise.stroke/index.html>

Dr. Stan Nelson, professor of human genetics and psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted May 2 in the DailyBeast.com about the use of DNA analysis to positively identify Osama Bin Laden.

“How DNA Swiftly Identified Bin Laden”

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/blogs-and-stories/2011-05-04/death-of-bin-laden-how-dna-swiftly-identified-his-body/>

Mary O’Connor, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted April 29 by MSNBC about research suggesting that teens who drink under adult supervision are more likely to develop problems with alcohol than those not allowed to drink until age 21.

“Letting Teen Drink under Parent’s Watch Backfires”

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42807670/ns/health-kids_and_parenting/

Dr. Dennis Slamon, professor of hematology–oncology and director of clinical/translational research at the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted April 28 in a (Toronto) Globe and Mail article about health coverage for breast cancer patients in Ontario, Canada.

“Breast Cancer Patient Takes Out Line of Credit to Pay for Herceptin”

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/health/new-health/health-news/breast-cancer-patient-takes-out-line-of-credit-to-pay-for-herceptin/article2002992/>

Dr. Preethi Srikanthan, assistant professor of endocrinology, commented April 29 in a WebMD article about common mistakes people with type-2 diabetes make in dealing with their condition.

“6 Ways to Wreck Your Blood Sugar Level”

<http://diabetes.webmd.com/features/how-to-wreck-your-blood-sugar>

Dr. Raffi Tachdjian, assistant clinical professor of medicine and pediatrics, was interviewed May 5 on KPCC 89.3FM’s “Patt Morrison Show” about a new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention finding that asthma rates are rising in the United States.

“Why Are Our Airways Failing Us? Asthma is on the Rise”

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/patt-morrison/2011/05/05/why-are-our-airways-failing-us-asthma-is-on-the-ri/>

Dr. David Ziring, assistant professor of pediatric gastroenterology at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, commented in the May issue of Parenting about helping children who are anxious about using public toilets.

“Holy Crap!”

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