UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of May 6 - 12, 2011

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L.A. Times Showcases Hospital CEO’s Philosophy
The Los Angeles Times published a front-page May 13 profile of Dr. David Feinberg, CEO of the UCLA Hospital System and associate vice chancellor of UCLA Health Sciences, describing how his focus on patient-centered care has measurably improved patient satisfaction under his tenure. The story quoted Feinberg; Dr. James McCracken, director of child and adolescent psychiatry at the Semel Institute; and nurse Leila Smith.

“UCLA Hospital System CEO’s Prescription for Success: Put Patients First”
http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-hospital-ceo-20110513,0,7692933.story

Early HIV Treatment Finding Garners National Coverage
The Los Angeles Times, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Reuters, Bloomberg News and others reported May 12 on a large-scale HIV Prevention Trials Network study. Researchers found that HIV-infected persons with healthy immune systems reduced the risk of transmitting the virus to their partners by 96 percent by taking oral antiretroviral medicines. Dr. Karin Nielsen, professor of pediatrics and a member of the UCLA AIDS Institute, co-chaired the study. Thomas Coates, an associate director of the UCLA AIDS Institute, was quoted in the New York Times.

“Early HIV Therapy Sharply Cuts Transmission of Virus”

Alzheimer’s Expert Visits “Good Morning America”
Dr. Gary Small was interviewed May 11 on an ABC “Good Morning America” story about the suicide of Gunter Sachs and the tendency for Alzheimer’s patients to suffer from depression. Small is the Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry with the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Center on Aging.

“Gunter Sachs Commits Suicide, Alludes to Alzheimer’s Struggle in Note”

Secondhand Smoke’s Link to Cravings Draws Press
Dr. Arthur Brody, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured May 2 in some 30 news outlets covering his research showing that exposure to secondhand smoke evokes tobacco cravings in smokers. Coverage included WebMD, Medscape, the Toronto Sun, Examiner.com, US News & World Report, and KABC-Channel 7.

“Secondhand Smoke Derails Quit-Smoking Efforts”

“Second-Hand Smoke Can Cause Nicotine Cravings”
http://www.torontosun.com/2011/05/03/secondhand-smoke-can-cause-nicotine-cravings

“Second-Hand Smoke May Trigger Nicotine Cravings”

“Second-Hand Smoke May Trigger Nicotine Cravings”
CBS News Explores CT Scans' Safety in Children
Dr. Christopher Giza, associate professor of neurosurgery and pediatric neurology, appeared May 10 in a CBS News segment about whether it is safe to give young children a CT scan after a traumatic brain injury. The piece aired locally on KCBS-Channel 2 and KCAL-Channel 9, as well as 75 CBS affiliates around the country.
“CT Scans in Kids”

The Atlantic, Irish Times Investigate Memory Erasure
The Atlantic and Irish Times reported May 10 on a study led by David Glanzman, professor of neurobiology, in which researchers eliminated a long-term memory in a marine snail. The research may ultimately benefit humans with post-traumatic stress disorder and other long-term memory disorders.
“Even If We Could Erase Bad Memories, Should We?”
http://www.theatlantic.com/life/archive/2011/05/if-we-could-erase-bad.memories-should-we/238444/
“Why Do Memories Last or Fade?”

L.A. Times Warns of Gene Linked to Alzheimer’s Risk
Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, was featured May 12 in the Los Angeles Times about his research finding that a particular gene carried by most people impairs the development of myelin, the protective covering around the neuron’s axons, making it more vulnerable to the onset of Alzheimer’s later in life.
“Alzheimer’s Damage May Begin at a Young Age, Study Finds”
http://www.latimes.com/health/boostershots/la-heb-alzheimers-20110512,0,1944348.story

Medscape, MedPage Today Cover NIMH Couples Study
Medscape and MedPage Today reported April 25 and April 26, respectively, on a National Institute of Mental Health trial featuring UCLA as a site. Researchers found 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.
“Health Interventions Effective in High-Risk Black Couples”
“Health Promotion Pays Off for Mixed HIV Couples”
http://www.medpagetoday.com/clinical-context/HIVAIDS/26127

L.A. Times Scrutinizes Show’s Clinical Trial Depiction
Joshua Grill, director of education for the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer’s Disease Research, and Antonio DeSalles, professor of neurosurgery, commented May 9 in the Los Angeles Times about the accuracy of medical practices on TV’s “Grey’s Anatomy,” and compared it to how an actual trial is run.
“On ‘Grey’s Anatomy,’ an Altruistic Act in Alzheimer’s Study Could Wreak Havoc”
http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-unreal-greys-anatomy-20110509,0,7246995.column

HealthDay Notes Power of Community-Based HIV Testing
HealthDay News reported May 5, News-Medical.net reported May 6 and AIDSMap reported May 10 on research finding that community-based HIV testing programs can boost repeat testing rates in rural areas. Thomas Coates, who chaired the steering committee overseeing the 10-year project, was quoted. He is co-director of the UC Global Health Institute and an associate director of the UCLA AIDS Institute.
“Community Intervention Can Improve HIV Testing Rates”
“Community-based Testing Increased Rates of HIV Testing and Detection in Resource-limited Settings”
“Study Examines Community-based HIV Testing Programs in Africa, Southeast Asia”
**Duchenne Fundraisers Attract Attention**
The Mississippi Sun Herald reported May 12 on a Newport Beach fundraiser that raised $330,000 to support UCLA’s Center for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. The celebrity website, Look to the Stars, also reported April 26 on Dealing for Duchenne, a Los Angeles fundraiser supporting the UCLA center. “Star-Studded Evening Raises $333,000 for CureDuchenne and the Center for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy at UCLA”
http://www.sunherald.com/2011/05/12/3106851/star-studded-evening-raises-333000.html
“Cure Duchenne at Celebrity Charity Gala”

**Local Papers Focus on Infection Control**
The Pasadena Star News and Daily News ran a May 7 column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, celebrated a nurse who has worked in infectious disease prevention throughout her career. “Infection Files: In Praise of Moms and Infection Control Nurses”
http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/ci_18019460

**Health.com Offers Memory Tips**
A May 5 Health.com column offering tips for improving memory cited research on the subject by Dr. Gary Small, Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging, a psychiatrist with the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Center on Aging. Small was quoted.
“7 Ways to Protect Your Memory”
http://www.health.com/health/gallery/0,,20479128,00.html

**Newswire Covers Tech Advance for Prostate Biopsy**
Asian News International, websites for Bioscholar, Engineer and Laboratory Equipment reported May 12 on a new prostate-imaging technology that fuses MRI with real-time three-dimensional ultrasound that may offer a more exacting method to obtain biopsy specimens from suspicious areas. Dr. Leonard Marks, professor of urology, was quoted. The ANI story was picked up by Daily India News, Sify and Newstrack India. “MRI-Ultrasound Fusion Method to Obtain Targeted Biopsy of Prostate Cancer”
http://www.dailyindia.com/show/439484.php
“MRI-Ultrasound Combination Could Improve Cancer Diagnosis”
“MRI-Ultrasound Fusion Method to Obtain Targeted Biopsy of Prostate Cancer”

**Wisconsin News Features Allergy Expert**
Dr. Marc Riedl, assistant professor of medicine, division of clinical immunology and allergy, discussed food allergy testing and diagnosis in a May 5 story on WTMJ-TV, an NBC affiliate in Wisconsin. http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=144213&key=n1fuEF0pdAHozHgomon4i9Uu4RrlV4ir0D&e mail=RChampeau@mednet.ucla.edu

**Media Highlight Program that Aids Wounded Warriors**
Dallas’ WFAA-Channel 8 reported May 6 on a Marine treated by Operation Mend, a UCLA program that provided surgery to severely wounded and disfigured U.S. soldiers. Dr. Timothy Miller, chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and Operation Mend’s lead surgeon, was featured. On May 12, Seattle-based Crosscut.com featured comments by Gen. Peter Chiarelli, U.S. Army Vice Chief of Staff, about the philanthropy of Ronald A. Katz, a Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center board of advisors member and founder of Operation Mend. “Gen. Chiarelli Asks Seattle: What Are We Going to do about Vets?”
http://crosscut.com/2011/05/12/military/20908/Gen.-Chiarelli-asks-Seattle:-What-are-we-going-to-do-about-vets/-
“Severely Burned Marine is Face of Program that's Changing Lives”

Riverside Paper Notes High Pollution in Rail Yard
John Froines, professor of environmental health sciences at the School of Public Health, was featured in a May 9 Riverside Press Enterprise article about his research showing high levels of air pollution at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail yard in San Bernardino.
“SAN BERNARDINO: Rail Yard Pollution is More Toxic than in other Areas”

Surgeon Dissects Spinal Stenosis Epidemic
Dr. Nick Shamie, orthopaedic surgeon at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital and associate professor of orthopaedic surgery, wrote a commentary about lumbar spinal stenosis in the May edition of American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Now.
“Lumbar Spinal Stenosis: The Growing Epidemic”

Wire Covers New Nanoparticle for Drug Delivery
Asian News International reported May 5 on a UCLA study in which scientists engineered mesoporous silica nanoparticles to encapsulate and successfully deliver chemotherapy drugs to cancer tumor sites in mice. Dr. Andre Nel, a professor of medicine, pediatrics and public health; chief of nanomedicine; and a researcher with UCLA’s Jonsson Cancer Center, was quoted.
“Soon, Magic Bullets to Fight Cancer”

Alzheimer’s Site Explores Movement Disorder Research
A story on a new zebrafish model by Diane Papazian, professor of physiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine, for spinocerebellar ataxias, a collection of movement diseases linked to brain-cell death, was highlighted May 11 on the online Alzheimer Research Forum News. The study appeared May 4 in the Journal of Neuroscience.
“In a Fish with Ataxia, Ions Can’t Surf Its Channels”
(http://www.alzforum.org/new/detail.asp?id=2782)

Websites Spotlight Potential Diabetes Therapy
Zimbio.com reported May 5 and Defeat Diabetes.org reported May 8 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.
“Pancreatic Cell Breakthrough May End Need for Insulin Therapy”
http://www.zimbio.com/Diabetes/articles/3YZjbONKQq/Pancreatic+Cell+Breakthrough+May+End+Need

“New Mechanism Identified That May Provide Potential Cure for Diabetes”

Seniors’ Publication Highlights Healthy Aging
The May issue of Not Born Yesterday highlighted “Aging Well in LA,” a TV show produced by the City of Los Angeles’ Department of Aging in partnership with the UCLA’s family medicine department and geriatrics division. Dr. Scott Kaiser, a primary care and health services fellow and program consultant, was quoted.

Local Media Review Health Care Series for Seniors
World Journal, Epoch Times, International Daily News and LA 18 reported May 7 on the DVD release of “10 Steps to Better Healthcare: A Guide for Chinese-American Seniors,” a video series aimed at helping Chinese-American seniors improve their access to health care. Dr. Michael Ong, assistant professor of general internal medicine and health services research, was quoted.
“10 • 增改善健康 法寶送長者”
BRIEFS

The May 7 Santa Monica Daily Press ran a captioned photo of a Mother’s Day ice-cream social hosted by UCLA Internal Medicine Consultants of Santa Monica.
“Moms Recognized”

The one-day move of more than 400 patients from UCLA Medical Center to the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was cited in a May 11 WTOP-103.5FM segment on a similar move by Walter Reed Army Medical Center in August.
“Part 6: Moving a Historic Hospital in One Day”
http://www.wtop.com/?nid=978&sid=2377424

A May 11 Internal Medicine News article about successful heart transplant outcomes in people in their 70s cited UCLA’s “alternate heart transplant list” that provides older recipients with donor hearts typically rejected by transplant centers.
“Data Suggest 70 May be the New 60 for Heart Transplantation”

The UCLA Thrift Shop, which raises money for the UCLA Medical Auxiliary, was featured May 9 on a Dr. Phil segment about money saving tips.
“Keys to Shopping at Thrift Stores”
http://drphil.com/slideshows/slideshow/5013/?id=5013&showID=1232

A Ladies Home Journal.com profile of Leiauna Anderson, a liver transplant patient who serves as a Donate Life Ambassador Regional Lead, cited Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center “Double Blessing”
http://www.lhj.com/volunteering/organ-donation/?page=5

QUOTABLES

Dr. Alon Avidan, associate professor of neurology and associate director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Program, commented in a May 2011 special edition of U.S. News & World Report about why we need to sleep, and the role specific neurotransmitters play in our sleep/awake cycle.
“What Dreams are Made of”

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented May 10 in HealthDay News on a study showing that patients receiving an anemia drug after a heart attack may be prone to additional heart problems.
The story also ran in U.S. News & World Report.
“Anemia Drug May Worsen Heart Attacks”
http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=652827

Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, commented in a May 9 HealthDay News story about unnecessary CT scans for children with minor head injuries. The article also appeared in the online editions of U.S. News & World Report and USA Today.
“Child’s Head Injury Doesn’t Always Need CT Scan: Study”
Dr. Brigitte Gomperts, assistant professor of pediatric hematology and oncology, was quoted May 11 by the Associated Press about the potential for using stem-cell therapy to treat emphysema and other lung diseases. “Scientists Identify Possible Human Lung Stem Cell”
http://hosted2.ap.org/APDEFAULT/386c25518f464186bf7a2ac026580ce7/Article_2011-05-11-US-SCI-Lung-Stem-Cells/id-b4c97f2f2a1e4ca69114daae36a6f87

Dr. Christoph Lee, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar in the radiological sciences and the general internal medicine and health services research, was quoted May 2 by Medscape Medical News about new strategies to help radiologists work under healthcare reform. “ACR Issues Strategies to Prepare Radiologists for ACOs”

David Liebeskind, associate neurology director at the UCLA Stroke Center, was quoted in a May 6 USA Today article about the signs of stroke and how they often evolve. “Study Finds Blacks who have Strokes Call Relatives Before 911”
http://yourlife.usatoday.com/health/story/2011/05/Study-finds-blacks-who-have-strokes-call-relatives-before-911/46857830/1

Dr. Neil Martin, professor of neurosurgery and co-director of the UCLA Stroke Center, commented May 11 in a Huffington Post report about research finding that everyday activities that cause blood pressure to spike may briefly raise the risk of a burst aneurysm in certain people. The article originally appeared in an online CNN.com report on May 5. “Coffee, Sex, Nose Blowing Could Raise Stroke Risk”
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/05/05/stroke-risk_n_858221.html

Dr. Andrea Rapkin, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, commented May 10 in a KCBS-Channel 2 report about premenstrual dysphoric disorder, a severe form of PMS. “Women Share their Heartfelt Stories of Battling PMDD”

Dr. Antoni Ribas, associate professor of hematology–oncology and a researcher at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted May 9 in a Los Angeles Times column about different types of skin cancer “Gov. Jerry Brown’s Skin Cancer Common, Treatable”
http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-brown-skin-cancer-20110509,0,5902819.story

Dr. Brendan Riley, clinical instructor of podiatry and a partner with the University Podiatry Group at UCLA, commented May 9 in a Los Angeles Times article about the growing popularity of the sock-like footwear known as “barefoot shoes.” “Toe a New Line: Barefoot Shoes”
http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-barefoot-shoes-20110509,0,3755024.story

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