



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT  
For the week of May 20 - 26, 2011**

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### **Paralyzed Man Who Regains Movement Draws International Coverage**

A research breakthrough by a team of scientists from UCLA, the University of Louisville and the California Institute of Technology that allowed a man paralyzed from the chest down to stand, step with assistance and move his legs voluntarily was highlighted May 19 – May 22 by the [Los Angeles Times](#), the [New York Times](#), the [Wall Street Journal](#), [USA Today](#), the [Washington Post](#), ABC's "World News With Diane Sawyer," CBS's "Evening News," [BBC News](#), National Public Radio's "Morning Edition," the [Associated Press](#), [Reuters](#), [United Press International](#), [Agence France-Presse](#), [Bloomberg](#), [CNN.com](#), a [PBS](#) blog, the [London Times](#), [Britain's Guardian](#), [Britain's Independent](#), [Britain's Telegraph](#), the [Irish Examiner](#), [Asian News International](#), the [Australian](#), [Australia's Age](#), the [Toronto Star](#), [WebMD](#), [HealthDay News](#), [Science](#), [Popular Science](#), [New Scientist](#), an [Atlantic](#) blog, Canada's [CTV](#), [MedPage Today](#); [Medscape](#), the [Pasadena Star-News](#), the [Louisville Courier-Journal](#), [PC World](#), [FOX News.com](#) and [Pravda](#), among other outlets. V. Reggie Edgerton, one of the lead researchers and a UCLA distinguished professor of integrative biology and physiology and of neurobiology, was quoted in the coverage.

### **Autism's Imprint on Brain Attracts Headlines**

UCLA research revealing how autism leaves an unexpected molecular signature on the brain was reported May 25 by [BBC News](#), [TIME](#), [WebMD](#), [HealthDay News](#), [Bloomberg News](#), [Science News](#), [The Scientist](#), [The Canadian Press](#), [PsychCentral](#), [Asian News International](#), [GenomeWeb Daily News](#), [Examiner.com](#), [The Epoch Times](#), [French Tribune](#), and [DisabilityScoop.com](#). The HealthDay report appeared on [Yahoo News](#), [MSN](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#) and many others. The Canadian Press story appeared in the [Globe and Mail](#), [Canadian TV](#), [Winnipeg Free Press](#) and many others. The Bloomberg report appeared in the online [San Francisco Chronicle](#) and [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#). Senior author Dr. Daniel Geschwind, the Gordon and Virginia MacDonald Distinguished Chair in Human Genetics and a professor of neurology and psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine; and first author Irina Voineagu, a postdoctoral fellow in neurology, were quoted. The May 25 online edition of [Nature](#) published the findings.

### **Local Media Cover Opening of Infectious Disease Lab**

The [Los Angeles Daily News](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [KABC-790 AM](#), [KPCC-89.3 FM](#), the website of [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KCRW-89.9 FM](#) and [KNX-1070 AM](#) reported May 22, and [California Healthline](#) reported May 24, on the opening of the Global Bio Lab at the UCLA School of Public Health, a first-of-its-kind facility for infectious-disease surveillance and monitoring that will enable a rapid response in the event of a bioterrorist attack, flu pandemic or other national bioemergency. Linda Rosenstock, dean of the School of Public Health and a professor of medicine and environmental health sciences, was quoted in the coverage and interviewed on [KPCC](#). Cindy Horn, a member of the School of Public Health Dean's Advisory Board, was quoted.

### **N.Y. Times Magazine Explores New Media's Impact on Brain**

A May 18 [New York Times Magazine](#) story and blog by executive editor Bill Keller, cites the influence of several researchers and authors who are studying the effects of new media on the brain, including Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor of Aging, a professor of psychiatry with the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Center on Aging.

### **UPI Showcases Better Prostate Cancer Detector**

[United Press International](#) reported May 23 on a study by Gang Zeng and Dr. Allan Pantuck, associate professors of urology and researchers at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, showing that a new type of prostate cancer test identified more men with malignancies and resulted in fewer false positives than the traditional PSA test. Zeng was quoted.

### **Bloomberg Highlights Melanoma Research**

A May 24 [Bloomberg](#) article about new experimental drugs for melanoma referenced a clinical trial of the drug vemurafenib conducted at UCLA by Dr. Antoni Ribas, associate professor of hematology–oncology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center. Ribas was quoted.

### **L.A. Times Explores How Meditation Can Help Caregivers**

Dr. Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry, and Dr. Michael Irwin, professor of psychiatry and director of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology at the Semel Institute, were featured in a May 20 [Los Angeles Times](#) blog about their research suggesting that meditative yoga can help improve the mental and physical health of home-based caregivers.

### **Media Covers Actress's Brain Surgery**

Dr. Neil Martin, chair of neurosurgery, appeared May 15 on NBC's "Extra" describing the brain surgery actress Mary Tyler Moore underwent. Dr. Nader Pouratian, assistant professor of neurosurgery, also commented on Moore's procedure in a May 15 [KCBS](#) segment.

### **KCET Raises Funds for Japanese Relief**

Dr. Kozue Shimabukuro, a pediatric critical care fellow at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, appeared May 24 as a guest on [KCET's live "Japan Relief Special"](#) to help victims of the tsunami and earthquake in Japan. She spent several weeks in Japan as a medical volunteer. Coverage of the fundraiser and the fact that it will be rebroadcast on Saturday appeared in the May 26 [Pasadena Weekly](#).

### **Paper Examines Secondhand Smoke's Impact on Cigarette Cravings**

The [St. Louis American](#) reported May 19 on research by Dr. Arthur L. Brody, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, showing that exposure to secondhand smoke evokes tobacco cravings in smokers.

### **HealthDay Documents Abused Latinas' Postpartum Depression**

[HealthDay News](#) reported May 16 on a UCLA Center for Culture, Trauma and Mental Health Disparities study finding that Latinas who endure domestic violence within a year of pregnancy are five times more likely to suffer from postpartum depression.

### **The Advocate Profiles HIV Researcher**

Dr. Peter Anton, professor of digestive diseases and a member of the UCLA AIDS Institute, was interviewed in the April issue of [The Advocate](#) about the latest advances in AIDS treatments.

### **Channel 7 Features Pediatric Comfort Care Program**

[KABC-Channel 7](#) featured the comfort care program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA in a May 25 story about a nonprofit organization that won a KABC contest to support worthy causes. The No Worries Now foundation, which holds proms for critically ill children, including UCLA patients, earned a \$7,000 prize. Dr. Ilanit Brook, the St. Baldrick's Fellow in pediatric hematology and oncology, was interviewed, and social worker Gina Kornfeind, support coordinator for the UCLA Children's Comfort Care program, also appeared.

### **Local Papers Cover History of Tetanus**

May 21 columns in the [Daily News](#) and [Pasadena Star News](#) by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, discussed the history and prevalence of tetanus.

### **Sac Bee, S.M. Daily Press Report on Nursing Contract**

The May 24 [Sacramento Bee](#) and May 23 [Santa Monica Daily Press](#), among others, covered University of California nurses voting this week to ratify their first multiyear labor agreement with UC in nearly a decade. The 26-month deal, still tentative pending a vote by the California Nurses Association, includes an average pay hike of 11 percent for all nurses. Ann Brown, a UCLA RN and nurse negotiator, was quoted.

### **L.A. Business Journal Notes Child Development Award**

Ted Hutman, a postdoctoral scholar in psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was cited in a May 24 [Los Angeles Business Journal](#) article about Mattel Inc. grants awarded for research on the role of play in early childhood development. He will research the effect of toys on the development of language and social and cognitive skills.

### **LONI Member Featured by U.K. Pub, Health Site**

Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, was featured in the May 24 London's [Daily Mail](#) about his lab's finding that a gene widely linked to weight gain is also associated with brain tissue loss. The health website [DailyRX](#) also reported May 26 on his study finding that a particular gene carried by most people impairs the development of myelin, the protective covering around the neuron's axons, making it weaker and more vulnerable to Alzheimer's onset later in life.

### **Security Trade Spotlights Disaster Preparedness**

[Medill National Security Zone](#) published a May 20 interview with William Dunne, director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Security Services for the UCLA Health System, on training exercises for employees and adopting new protocols post-9/11.

### **POZ Magazine Highlights AIDS Researcher**

Dr. Michael Gottlieb, associate clinical professor of medicine, was featured in the June issue of [POZ magazine](#) in an article about the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the AIDS epidemic.

### **BRIEFS**

A May 21 [Forbes](#) blog cited research from UCLA's Memory and Aging Research Center demonstrating that technology and new media could impact the brain.

The research of Paul Thompson, professor of neurology, and his brain imaging research to understand the biological basis of I.Q. were cited in a May 25 [Scientific American](#) blog.

A May 22 [New York Times](#) article cited previous celebrity patient privacy breaches at the UCLA Health System in an article focused on a growing constellation of Web sites, magazines and TV programs that provide round-the-clock gossip to the public.

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was cited May 21 in an [Orange County Register](#) article about a local businesswoman who is designing comfortable hospital gowns for pediatric patients.

Dr. Lonnie Zeltzer, director of the UCLA Pediatric Pain program at Mattel Children's Hospital, was cited in a May 24 [Daily Breeze](#) article about a Torrance boy whose family is seeking alternative treatment from a Texas doctor for his complex pain syndrome.

Dr. Bert Thomas, orthopaedic surgeon and clinical professor of orthopaedic surgery, was listed among the top 70 hip surgeons in the May 24 [Becker's Orthopaedic Spine and Pain Management Review](#).

A May 25 [USA Today](#) column on how to grill meats in a healthy way cited a UCLA study showing that using a certain herb-and-spice blend on grilled hamburgers can help reduce the concentration of cancer-causing carcinogens in the meat.

### **QUOTABLES**

Dr. David Baron, a family medicine physician and former chief of staff at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted May 24 by the [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) and May 25 by [KCAL-Channel 9](#) about a proposed ballot initiative to ban circumcisions in Santa Monica.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented May 24 in [Health.com](#) about the cardiac benefits of fish consumption. A May 20 [MedPage Today](#) article quoted him about the Heart Failure Congress in Sweden. He commented May 23 in [MedPage Today](#) about remote monitoring's impact on heart failure outcomes. Fonarow was quoted May 23 by [HealthDay News](#) on the minimal benefit of CT heart scans in symptom-free patients, and in a May 25 [HealthDay News](#) story about a daily four-in-one-drug pill for heart

disease and stroke prevention. He commented May 26 in [HealthDay News](#) about a niacin trial that was halted due to lack of benefit for heart patients.

Dr. Neal Halfon, professor of pediatrics, health services and public policy and director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities, was quoted May 22 in a [USA Today](#) article about the rising number of children with developmental disabilities.

Dr. Praveen Kambam, an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in the May 26 [Los Angeles Times](#) and [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) explaining the legal distinction between insanity and incompetence for trial regarding the recent ruling concerning Tucson mass-shooting suspect Jared Lee Loughner.

Gerald Kominski, associate director of the Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health, was quoted May 23 by the [Contra Costa Times](#) about a California legislature proposal to create a single-payer health care system and provide access to doctors for all, including illegal residents.

Dr. Paul Krogstad, professor of pediatric infectious diseases and of medical and molecular pharmacology, was quoted May 24 in [Reuters](#) and [Clinical Advisor](#) articles about a study showing that kids with asthma are often prescribed unnecessary antibiotics.

Dr. Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the Late-Life Depression, Stress, and Wellness Research Program, was quoted in the May 22 [Los Angeles Times](#) about proposed changes to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, or DSM-5, the textbook used by psychiatrists to diagnose mental illnesses. The article also appeared in the May 23 [Sacramento Bee](#).

Mary-Frances O'Connor, assistant professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in the May [Scientific American](#) on her research into complicated (long-term) grief.

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UCLA's Health Sciences Media Relations office e-publishes this report weekly. For more information, please call Roxanne Yamaguchi Moster, director of Health Sciences Media Relations, or Elaine Schmidt, senior media relations officer, at 310-794-0777.