



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT  
For the week of May 24-30, 2013**

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### **UCLA Live-Tweets Guitarist's Awake Brain Surgery**

Media around the world covered Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center's 500<sup>th</sup> deep brain stimulation surgery in a patient who played guitar on the operating-room table midway through the procedure. The surgery, which implants a pacemaker in the patient's brain to regulate essential tremor, was tweeted live, with pictures and video, by UCLA Health System's social-marketing staff. News coverage included May 30 by iTech Post, May 28 by [CNN](#) and [CNN en Español](#); May 26 by [KNBC-Channel 4](#); May 25 by Britain's [BBC](#), the [Sacramento Bee](#), [MSN.com](#), [Medical Daily](#), [Examiner.com](#) and Iran's [ISNA](#); May 24 by [Yahoo! News](#), Britain's [Daily Mail](#), [iHealth Beat](#), [Ubergizmo](#) and the [Digital Journal](#); and May 23 by the [Huffington Post](#) and [KNX 1070AM](#). Dr. Nader Pouratian, assistant professor of neurosurgery, was quoted in the coverage, which included Canada's CBC and Iran's Tagrib News.

### **Brain-Gut Study Grabs National, International Headlines**

[Neuroscience News](#), [Bio-Medicine](#), [Science News Line](#), [Health Canal](#), [e! Science News](#), [Scrubs Report](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Medical Daily](#), [Science Daily](#), [Science Codex](#), [Science A GoGo](#) May 28; [Glamour Magazine](#), [Popular Science](#), [New Kerala](#), [Fars News Agency](#), [Zee News](#), [Deccan Herald](#), [Red Orbit](#), [India.com](#), [Natural Products Insider](#), [EndoNurse](#), [Asian News International](#), [Food News](#), [SCV News](#), [Daily Mail UK](#), [Earth Sky](#), [Indian Express](#), [Press Trust of India](#), [Food Product Design](#), [Health Care Asia](#), [Health India](#), [Indian Mirror](#), [Health Central](#), [iTech Post](#), [Indian Express](#), [Bioscience Technology](#), [Big News Network](#), [India Vision](#), [Medical News Today](#), [Medic Magic](#), [Nexus Now](#), [News-Medical.net](#) May 29; and [Natural News](#), [Day News](#), [United Kingdom News](#), [News Reporter](#), [Indo-Asian News Service](#), [Telegraph UK](#), [Kajhiya Times](#), [Prokerala News](#), [UA Magazine](#), and [Med Guru](#) May 30 reported on a study that provided the first evidence that bacteria ingested in food can affect brain function in humans. The Asian News International and Indo-Asian News Services stories also appeared in dozens of media outlets nationwide. Dr. Kirsten Tillisch, associate professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases, and Dr. Emeran Mayer, a professor of medicine, physiology and psychiatry, were quoted.

### **Media Cover Study on Heart Failure Mortality**

An [NPR blog](#) May 24, and [Examiner.com](#), [BioMedicine](#) and [MedicalExpress](#) May 23 reported on a new study examining mortality outcomes for advanced heart-failure patients over the past 20 years. Study authors Dr. Tamara Horwich, assistant professor of medicine in the division of cardiology; John Loh, a medical student at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, were quoted in the coverage.

### **Auto Exhaust Turns Good Cholesterol Bad**

[MundoFOX](#) and [Green Car Reports](#) May 23, and [Car Lovers Magazine](#) and [Car Advice](#) May 24 reported on a study led by Dr. Jesus Araujo, associate professor of medicine and director of environmental cardiology, showing that breathing motor vehicle emissions triggers a change in "good" HDL cholesterol, altering its protective qualities so that it actually contributes to clogged arteries. Araujo and Fen Yin, a researcher in the division of cardiology, were quoted.

### **'Zoobiquity' Benefits People and Animals**

The May 28 [Albuquerque Journal](#) featured a profile of Dr. Barbara Natterson-Horowitz, clinical professor of medicine in the division of cardiology and director of imaging at the UCLA Cardiac Arrhythmia Center, highlighting her research comparing physical and mental disorders in animals and humans and her book "Zoobiquity," which examines the species-spanning nature of illness. Natterson-Horowitz was quoted.

### **D.C. Radio Reports on Subway/McDonald's Study**

[WTOP-Radio](#) (Washington) reported May 28 on research by Dr. Lenard Lesser, a former Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar in the department of family medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, finding that adolescents who purchased Subway meals consumed nearly as many calories as they did at McDonald's despite the fact that Subway promotes itself as the "healthy" fast food restaurant.

### **NY Times Highlights Diabetes Drugs' Possible Link to Pancreatic Cancer**

The [New York Times](#) reported May 30 on research by Dr. Peter Butler, director of the Larry L. Hillblom Islet Research Center and chief of the division of endocrinology, suggesting a possible link between some popular diabetes drugs and a heightened risk for developing pancreatitis and pancreatic cancer. Butler was quoted.

#### **Global Poverty Organization Spotlights the Blum Center**

[Borgen Magazine](#), the online magazine of the Borgen Project that seeks to eradicate global poverty, reported May 25 on the new UCLA Blum Center on Poverty and Health in Latin America, which takes an interdisciplinary approach in the U.S. and across borders to reduce poverty and improve health in the region. Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor of family medicine and the Center's director, was quoted.

#### **Univision Follows International Medical Graduate Program**

[Univision](#) reported May 25 on the UCLA International Medical Graduate (IMG) program, which assists bilingual, bi-cultural immigrant medical school graduates from Latin America, who reside in the U.S. legally, to earn their California medical licenses and obtain residencies in family medicine. The UCLA program is privately funded and covers all educational costs and includes a stipend. In exchange, the IMG physician must commit to practice in one of the state's more than 500 underserved communities for two to three years after completing their three year family medicine residency. Dr. Patrick Dowling, chair of the UCLA Department of Family Medicine and the program's co-founder, and Dr. Michelle Bholat, vice-chair of the UCLA Department of Family Medicine and the program's co-founder and executive director, were quoted.

#### **Infectious Diseases Doctor Examines the Health Effects of Artic Ice-Melts**

The Los Angeles [Daily News](#) May 28 published a column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, exploring the health effects of Artic ice-melts on the people who live in the region. The column also ran in the [Pasadena Star-News](#), [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#) and [Whittier Daily News](#).

#### **Prostate Cancer Study Continues to Garner Coverage**

[The Daily Briefing](#) and [Best Health](#) May 24; [Imperial Valley News](#) May 27; [Journal Watch](#) and [Cancer Network](#) May 28, and [MDLinx](#) and [Medical Research](#) May 29 reported on a study that found older prostate cancer patients with other health issues should consider carefully whether or not to treat their cancer. Dr. Timothy Daskivich, a UCLA Robert Wood Johnson fellow in the UCLA Department of Urology, led the study.

#### **Media Reports Healthy Lifestyle Makes Memories**

Dr. Gary Small, the Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, was featured in the media regarding a study he conducted with the Gallup organization showing that healthy eating, regular exercise and not smoking were related to better self-perceived memory abilities for most adult groups--but surprisingly, a higher-than-expected percentage of younger adults complained about their memory. Coverage included May 29 [Examiner.com](#) and [KPCC 89.3FM](#) articles; May 30 articles by [United Press International](#), [HealthCanal.com](#), and [MedicalXpress](#); and an interview on the KNX 1070AM show "Money 101."

#### **CBS Profiles 'Walking' Vet Honored by Operation Mend**

[CBS Evening News](#) featured a story May 26 on a Vietnam veteran who walks to raise money for UCLA's Operation Mend, a partnership between Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, Brooke Army Medical Center and the Veterans Affairs Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System that offers free reconstructive surgery and other medical services for U.S. military personnel severely wounded and disfigured during service. The story also aired May 27 on CBS This Morning and was featured in [Wounded Times](#).

#### **Baltimore TV Tells Story of Op Mend Patient**

[WBFF Fox Channel-45](#) (Baltimore, Md.) May 27 featured the story of Operation Mend patient Marine Cpl. Tony Porta and his wife Daisy about the sacrifices made by U.S. troops and how Americans should reflect on Memorial Day. Also, [WRKF 89.3FM](#) (Baton Rouge, La.) May 29 featured an interview with the program's director, Melanie Gideon.

### **Using Telehealth to Serve Children**

[Healthcare IT News](#), [FierceHealthIT](#), [NewsMedical.net](#), [Examiner.com](#) and [Scrubs Report](#) reported May 29 on a \$1.6 million research award to the Children's Discovery and Innovation Institute at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA to study the use of videoconferencing technology to deliver behavioral health services to pediatric patients in community primary care settings. The study will be led by Dr. Tumaini R. Coker, assistant professor of pediatrics. Coker was quoted.

### **Radiation Oncology Study Highlighted Online**

[MedicalXpress](#) May 29 featured a UCLA study that showed radiation oncology research was critically underfunded by the NIH. Dr. Michael Steinberg, professor and chair of the department of radiation oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted.

### **Santa Monica Papers Publish Hospital's Summer Safety Tips**

The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) May 24 and the [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) May 28 published articles containing summer safety precautions provided by UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the hospital's Nethercutt Emergency Center, was quoted in both articles.

### **L.A. Parent Magazine Highlights Hospital's Unique Support Group for Expectant Moms**

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica's support group for expectant moms on bed rest was highlighted in the June issue of [L.A. Parent](#) magazine as part of a feature story on high-risk pregnancies. Jessica Fisher, who delivered twins at the hospital last year, was interviewed about the challenges she faced during her four-month stay on bed rest. Dr. Daniel Kahn, UCLA maternal-fetal medicine specialist and assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was also quoted in the story.

### **KNX Radio Focuses on Medical Tests Worth Taking**

Dr. Camelia Davtyan, clinical professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research and women's health director in the UCLA Comprehensive Health Program, and Dr. Daniel Vigil, visiting associate professor of family medicine, were interviewed May 24 on [KNX 1070AM](#) on the topic of medical tests worth taking. They focused on what tests to consider taking and what age to get them done. Podcasts of their interviews were featured May 27 and can be found under "Getting Screened," "Heart Disease," "Baby Aspirin" and "Melanoma."

## **BRIEFS**

An article in the May 24 [Los Angeles Times](#) about the types of insurance options that will be available as part of California's planned health benefit exchange, established as part of the federal Affordable Care Act, referenced the UCLA Health System and its doctors.

A May 28 [KCRW 89.9FM](#) story about the implementation of the health insurance provision of the Affordable Care Act in California cited a study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research estimating the number of Ventura County residents who will remain uninsured after the provision goes into effect.

The UCLA-Thousand Oaks medical practice was referenced May 30 in the Conejo Business Times for its support of the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce's Spirit of Community Awards.

## **QUOTABLES**

Dr. Molly Coye, chief innovation officer of the UCLA Institute for Innovation in Health and a member of the UCLA Health System, was interviewed May 23 by [Capital Public Radio News](#) about the new California health insurance exchange.

Dr. Camelia Davtyan, clinical professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research and women's health director in the UCLA Comprehensive Health Program, was quoted May 25 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about the dangers of prolonged sitting.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, UCLA's Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in a May 28 [Minnesota Post](#) article about the "obesity paradox," which suggests that being overweight can sometimes mean a longer life span.

Dr. Heather Gillespie, assistant clinical professor of family medicine, was quoted in the June issue of *Vegetarian Times* in an article about natural ways to relieve jet lag.

Dr. Edmund Huang, assistant professor of medicine in the division of nephrology, commented in a May 29 [Pasadena Star-News](#) story about a young woman who needs a kidney transplant and is seeking a donor through Craigslist. The Long Beach [Press-Telegram](#), [San Jose Mercury News](#) and Inland Valley [Daily Bulletin](#) ran the story.

Dr. Hrak Jalian, staff dermatologist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was quoted May 24 in a [WebMD](#) article on the effectiveness of sunscreens.

Dr. Paul Krogstad, professor of pediatric infectious diseases at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted May 30 in a [Medscape](#) article about a recent study in China that found a new vaccine against enterovirus 71 (EV71) was effective in preventing hand, foot and mouth disease in children.

Dr. Carlos Lerner, medical director of the Children's Health Center at UCLA, was quoted May 24 in a [Christian Post](#) article about a drop in the number of teens giving birth in the U.S., particularly in the Chicano community.

Nicole Prause, a research psychologist in the department of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a May 28 [Huffington Post](#) article about incestual pornography.

Dr. Beate Ritz, professor and chair of epidemiology at the Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a May 24 [Huffington Post](#) article about the dangers of inhaling pesticides when smoking marijuana.

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