



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of May 30-June 5, 2014**

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\$10M Gift for Sports Concussions Grabs More Headlines

New York Giants co-owner Steve Tisch's \$10 million gift to the UCLA Department of Neurosurgery to expand its newly renamed UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA was widely covered in the past week by news media nationwide, including the [Wall Street Journal](#), [Washington Post](#), a column in the [New York Times](#), Los Angeles [Daily News](#), [NY1 TV](#), the CBS Radio Network, [Medscape](#), [Extra](#), [KTTV-Channel 11](#), the [Huffington Post](#), [Chronicle of Philanthropy](#), [KFWB 980AM](#), [KNX 1070AM](#), [KFI 640AM](#), op-eds in New Jersey's [The Record](#) and the [Frederick News Post](#), the American Academy of Family Physician's [AAFP](#), [Westside Today](#), [Science World Report](#), [MedPage Today](#), [MSNBC](#), [Concussion Policy & the Law](#), and many others. Dr. Christopher Giza, founding director of BrainSPORT and a professor of neurosurgery and pediatric neurology; Dr. Neil Martin, the W. Eugene Stern Chair of Neurosurgery; and Dr. Meeryo Choe, pediatric neurologist, were interviewed about the importance of treating and researching sports concussions.

UCLA Medal Recipient David Geffen Gets Media Spotlight

[Gnomes News Service](#) May 28, [Getty Images](#) and [Century City Patch](#) May 30, [Westside Today](#) and [Reuters](#) May 31 and the [Jewish Journal](#) June 4 reported that film and music industry mogul David Geffen received the UCLA Medal, the university's highest honor, during the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA's Hippocratic Oath Ceremony.

Media Cover Study on Health, Lifestyle Factors and Memory Complaints

KABC-Channel 7 ([Segment 1](#)) ([Segment 2](#)), [UK's Daily Express](#), [United Press International](#), [University Herald](#), [Psych Central](#), [Nature World News](#), [Hot Med Fax](#), [WN.com](#), [BioSpace.com](#), and [MDLinx](#) June 5 and [MedicalXpress](#), [Medical Daily](#), [Examiner.com](#) and [Laboratory Equipment](#) June 4 covered a study by UCLA researchers and the Gallup organization that polled more than 18,000 people about their memory and a variety of lifestyle and health factors previously shown to increase the risk of Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Researchers found that many of these risk factors increased the likelihood of self-perceived memory complaints across all adult age groups. Study authors quoted included Dr. Stephen Chen, associate clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute; Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, and Dr. Fernando Torres-Gil, a professor at UCLA's Luskin School of Public Affairs and associate director of the UCLA Longevity Center.

UCLA Researchers Discover New Hormone

[Science Daily](#), [Business Standard](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [HealthCanal](#), [Innovations Report](#), [Science 2.0](#), [Imperial Valley News](#), [News-Medical.net](#), [Headlines and Global News](#), [Science World Report](#) and others reported June 1 that UCLA researchers discovered a new hormone called erythroferrone, which regulates the iron supply needed for red blood-cell production. The discovery could lead to treatments for blood disorders associated with both iron deficiencies and overloads. The findings were published in [Nature Genetics](#). Senior author Dr. Tomas Ganz, professor of medicine and pathology at the David Geffen

School of Medicine at UCLA; first author, Dr. Leon Kautz, a UCLA postdoctoral fellow; and study author Dr. Elizabeta Nemeth, professor of medicine at UCLA, were cited in the coverage.

Media Look at How Diabetes and Depression Lead Seniors to Early Death

[HealthCanal](#) May 29; [MedicalXpress](#), [Science Codex](#), [BrightSurf.com](#), [Diabetes in Control](#) and [InsuranceNewsNet.com](#) May 30; [Headlines & Global News](#), [University Herald](#), and [Sierra Sun Times](#) May 31 and [Psychiatry Update](#) June 1 reported on a study led by Lindsay Kimbro, project director in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that among adults 65 and older with diabetes, depression is linked with a far greater chance for early death compared with people of the same age who do not have depression.

Los Angeles Newspaper Group Highlights International Medical Graduate Program

[The Daily Breeze](#) June 2 highlighted the UCLA International Medical Graduate (IMG) program, which assists bi-lingual, 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 featured as were three IMG program participants. The article also ran in other Los Angeles Newspaper Group papers including the Los Angeles Daily News, Whittier Daily News, San Bernardino Sun, Pasadena Star-News and the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin.

Parkinson's Study Garners Attention

[Health News Digest](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Beverly Hills Courier](#), [Science Codex](#) and [MedicalXpress](#) June 4 and [Westside Today](#), [Science Alert](#), [Asian News International](#), [Biotrade](#) and [News-Medical.net](#) June 5 reported on a study by Dr. Ming Guo that discovered a new gene involved in Parkinson's disease. The ANI story also appeared in [New Kerala](#) and [Zee News](#). Guo is an associate professor of neurology and pharmacology.

UCLA to Operate Motion Picture and Television Fund Healthcare Centers

The May 28 [Santa Clarita Valley Business Journal](#), the [Beverly Hills Courier](#), City News Service and [KPCC 89.9FM](#) June 2, [MPTF blog](#) June 4 and KCSN 88.5FM June 5 featured stories on the June 1 transition of the Motion Picture Television Fund outpatient health care system into the UCLA Health System that was finalized and announced by Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and CEO for the UCLA Hospital System, and Bob Beitcher, president and CEO of MPTF. Dr. Patricia Kapur, executive vice president of the UCLA Health System and CEO of the UCLA Faculty Practice Group, and Dr. Samuel Skootsky, chief medical officer of the UCLA Faculty Practice Group and Medical Group, were interviewed.

New Laser Removes Tattoos in Fewer Treatments

[The Los Angeles Times](#) May 31 featured a story on the UCLA Dermatological Surgery and Laser Center's new laser, which removes tattoos more quickly and efficiently than traditional lasers. Dr. Gary Lask, director of the center and clinical professor of medical dermatology; Dr. H. Ray Jalian, clinical instructor of medicine in the division of dermatology, and a patient were quoted.

UCLA Participates in "National CPR Week"

[The Malibu Times](#), [Santa Monica Daily Press](#), [Santa Monica Mirror](#), [Examiner.com](#) and [WorldNews.com](#) published June 4 articles about the "Sidewalk" CPR trainings offered at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center as part of the American Heart Association's "National CPR Week." Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at the Santa Monica campus, was quoted in the stories.

Medical Press Heralds Breakthroughs in Experimental Immunotherapy Drug

[BioScience](#) and [WallStreetPR](#) (subscription only) June 4; [HCP Live](#), [Oncology Report](#) and [Healio](#) June 3;

and [MedicalXpress](#), [The Street](#) and [The Northwestern](#) June 2 reported on treatment milestones made by researchers at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center (JCCC) for patients with deadly skin and lung cancers who are being treated with an experimental drug called MK-3475 to unprecedented success. JCCC members Dr. Antoni Ribas and Dr. Edward Garon, both professors of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology, were quoted.

Semel Researcher Comments on Pornography's Effect on the Brain

Dr. Nicole Prause, a research scientist in the department of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted widely in the media regarding a study in *JAMA Psychiatry* that suggested the brains of men who watch lots of pornography tend to be smaller in certain key areas and have fewer connections than those of other men. The differences appeared in brain regions, including one called the striatum, which is associated with reward and motivation. Prause noted that doing anything repeatedly is how the brain becomes habituated, and that other factors, like depression or alcoholism, could be involved. Coverage included May 30 in [Livescience.com](#), May 31 in the [Daily Beast](#), June 2 in [celebritycafe.com](#), and June 4 in the [Dailydot.com](#).

Faculty Expert Pens Op-Ed on Asperger's Disorder

Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson, an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry in the Semel Institute and director of The Help Group - UCLA Autism Research Alliance, penned an op-ed in the May 26 [The Conversation](#) in which she noted there is no link between Asperger's Disorder – a form of autism – and violence.

NBC Today Show, KFVB Highlight New Treatment for Depression

Dr. Andrew Leuchter, professor of psychiatry and director of the Laboratory of Brain, Behavior, and Pharmacology at the Semel Institute, was featured in a [Today Show](#) segment about the use of a new, non-invasive method called synchronized transcranial magnetic stimulation for the treatment of depression. The research was also highlighted in a June 3 [KFVB 980AM](#) news segment.

Syndicated Report on Parkinson's Appears Widely

Dr. Beate Ritz, professor and chair of the department of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and professor of neurology, was featured in the media regarding her research and that of her colleagues that identified a biochemical signal in the blood associated with the faster-progressing form of Parkinson's disease. Such a biomarker could help doctors predict early on, just after the onset of motor symptoms, how rapidly the disease will progress. Coverage included June 4 in [WJXT-TV](#) (Jacksonville, Fla.), and [HealthNewsDigest.com](#); June 3 on [WFMZ-TV](#) (Allentown, Pa.); May 23 on [WNDU-TV](#) (South Bend, Ind.) and May 20 on [KSAT-TV](#) (San Antonio, Texas).

NPR Reports on Successful Treatment to Combat MS

Dr. Rhonda Voskuhl, professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Multiple Sclerosis Research and Treatment Program, was featured in a June 2 NPR [Morning Edition](#) report 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. Separately, Voskuhl's research was featured in a June 4 [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) article.

Hospitals, Health Systems that are Great Places to Work

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was part of a select group of hospitals and health systems that were named by [Becker's Hospital Review](#) in the June 3 edition of 150 Great Places to Work in Healthcare.

Health Media Tout Promising Lung Cancer Drugs

[MedicalXpress](#) and [HealthCanal](#) June 4 and [Examiner.com](#) June 2 reported on two new experimental drugs that have shown great promise in the treatment of patients with non-small-cell lung cancer, which accounts for about 85 percent of all lung cancers. Dr. Edward Garon and Dr. Jonathan Goldman, both professors of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology and members of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, were quoted.

BH Courier Spotlights Global Health

The [Beverly Hills Courier](#) reported May 23 (page 12) on the April 15 launch of the UCLA Center for World Health, which hosted a panel of experts to address improving global access to health care. Dr. Thomas Coates, director of the center and moderator of the event, was featured and quoted.

KLOS Explores Stroke in Young People

Dr. Reza Jahan was interviewed May 25 by [KLOS 95.5FM](#) about how stroke can affect people of all ages. Jahan is an associate professor of radiology and neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a member of the UCLA Stroke Center.

WedMD Magazine Features Expertise of UCLA Urologist

Dr. Christopher Saigal, professor and vice chair of the UCLA Department of Urology, was featured in the June issue of [WebMD Magazine](#) in a story about all natural libido boosters.

Lecture by UCLA Urologist Highlighted by Medscape

[Medscape](#) May 18 featured a lecture by Dr. Arie Beldegrun at the American Urology Association. Beldegrun is a professor of urology, director of the UCLA Institute of Urologic Oncology and chief of the Division of Urologic Oncology at UCLA.

Natural News Cites Prostate Cancer Study

[Natural News](#) on May 22 reported on a study by Timothy Daskivich, a UCLA Robert Wood Johnson fellow, which found that older, sicker men do not benefit from prostate cancer treatment.

More Reports on Targeted Biopsy Study

[Cancer Watch](#) May 28 and [Health Imaging](#) May 30 reported on a study by Dr. Leonard Marks that found that low risk prostate cancer isn't always low risk when tested with targeted biopsy. Marks is a professor of urology and director of the UCLA Active Surveillance Program.

HealthDay Covers Research on Heart Failure and Defibrillators

A June 3 [HealthDay News](#) story covered a study showing that people with moderate heart failure may live longer with an implanted defibrillator. Study co-author Dr. Gregg Fonarow, UCLA's Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted. The story also ran on [WebMD.com](#).

Trade Covers New Patient Assessment Tool

A May 30 column in [Medical Marketing & Media](#) featured a new patient-provider tool called "My GI Health" that allows a patient to complete a symptom assessment at home and translates it into a report for the physician to use during a clinic visit. Animation, symptom graphs and other features of the system are designed to help facilitate discussion between the physician and patient. One of the developers, Dr. Brennan Spiegel, professor of medicine in residence in the division of digestive diseases, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, was cited in the article.

A New Normal

The summer issue of [Our South Bay](#) magazine featured the story of a local 11-year-old boy who suffers from a genetic form of epilepsy called juvenile myoclonic epilepsy. His physician, Dr. Lekha Rao, assistant professor of pediatric neurology at Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA, was interviewed.

BRIEFS

The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) reported May 30 that UCLA Health was sponsoring an educational workshop for caregivers in partnership with local nonprofit WISE & Healthy Aging and the city of Santa Monica. Linda Ercoli, director of geriatric psychology, was quoted in the article.

[Rafu Shimo](#) reported June 2 that Jeffrey Fukumoto, a student at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, received a 2014 scholarship from the Japanese American Medical Association.

The [Daily Mail](#) (U.K) and the [Associated Press](#) June 2 mentioned Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in stories about Marvin Gaye III's recent kidney transplant.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, UCLA's Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented in a May 29 [HealthDay News](#) story about a new CDC report on the early results of a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services program to prevent heart attacks and stroke. The story also ran in [U.S. News & World Report](#).

Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of cancer prevention and control research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, commented May 30 in a [Medscape](#) story covering the 2014 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) annual meeting and its focus on quality-of-life issues in cancer patients.

Dr. Keith Heinzerling, associate professor in residence of family medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and medical director of the Center for Behavioral & Addiction Medicine, was quoted in a June 2 [California Health](#) report discussing how the Affordable Care Act's expansion of addiction coverage is changing the treatment landscape.

Dr. Mark Morocco, clinical professor of emergency medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, commented in a June 2 [Today.com](#) story about secondary drowning.

Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, commented June 4 in a [China Post](#) report on how cutting-edge drugs are making great strides in the fight against melanoma.

Dr. Daniel Silverman, professor of molecular and medical pharmacology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted May 27 by [HealthDay News](#) in a story about a study uncovering new clues to memory problems following chemotherapy.

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