



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of May 31-June 6, 2013**

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BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

Probiotic Yogurt Alters Brain Function

[MedPage Today](#), and [Whole Health](#) May 27; [PTI News](#) (Pakistan) May 29; [Yahoo! Canada](#), [Digital Journal](#), [SciTech Daily](#) and [Medscape Today](#) May 30; [FnB News](#) May 31; [Health Research Report](#) and [Longevity Magazine](#) June 1; the [Sunday Times](#) (Sri Lanka) June 2; [New York Daily News](#), [Men's Health](#), [World News and Wire](#), [Perishable News](#), [News Snip](#), [Huffington Post Canada](#) and [Agence France-Presse](#) June 3; [Health News Center](#), [ActivBrain](#) and [R & R Magazine](#) June 4; [MDLinx](#), [Women's Health](#) and [Managing Stress](#) June 5, and [Easy Health Options](#) June 6 reported on a study that provided the first evidence that bacteria ingested in food can affect brain function in humans. Study authors Dr. Kirsten Tillisch, associate professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases, and Dr. Emeran Mayer, professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases and also a professor of physiology and psychiatry, were quoted in the coverage.

Study on Discovery of New Stem Cell in Fat Grabs International Headlines

[KNBC-TV](#), [KGET-TV](#) (Bakersfield, Calif.), [KWVL-TV](#) (Cedar Rapids, Iowa), [WYFF-TV](#) (Greenville, S.C.), [KHAS-TV](#) (Lincoln, Neb), [WSMV-TV](#), (Nashville, Tenn.), [WHIZ-TV](#) (Zanesville, Ohio), [ABC España](#) (Spain), [Corriere Della Sera](#) (Italy), [Kopalnia Wiedzy](#) (Poland), [Medical News Today](#), [Science Codex](#), [Stem Cells Freak](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Lab Manager](#), [Stem Cell Café](#), [PhysOrg](#), [Cancer Live](#), [NBCNews.com](#), [Health Canal](#), [Scrubs Report](#) and [SciCasts](#) June 5 reported on a study in which stress-resistant human pluripotent stem cells were isolated from fat removed during liposuction. Gregorio Chazenbalk, an associate researcher with UCLA Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, led the study.

Promising Treatment for Advanced Melanoma Garner Wide Coverage

A presentation by Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, on phase II clinical trial data on lambrolizumab for the treatment of metastatic melanoma, received wide media coverage, including June 2 in [The New York Times](#), [Reuters](#), [Forbes](#), [USA Today](#), [Yahoo Finance](#), [US News & World Report](#), [NASDAQ](#), [MarketWatch](#), [Oregon Herald](#), [Science Daily](#), and [El Mundo](#), and June 3 in [Sky News](#), [News-Medical.net](#), [OncLive](#), [Fox News](#), [e! Science News](#), [The Times of India](#), [The Hindu](#) and many others. Ribas, who led the study and was quoted in the coverage, presented his findings June 2 at the meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). The study was simultaneously published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Media Tap UCLA Experts on HPV and Throat Cancer

- Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, was quoted June 3 in the Los Angeles [Daily News](#) and June 6 on SiriusXM Satellite Radio's "The Michelangelo Signorile Show" about the possible link between human papillomavirus (HPV) and oral cancer and the importance of being vaccinated against the infection in reports about the possible cause of actor Michael Douglas' throat cancer. The article also ran in the [Oakland Tribune](#), [San Jose Mercury News](#), [The Willits News](#), the Inland Valley [Daily Bulletin](#), the [Whittier Daily News](#), the [Pasadena Star-News](#), the [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#), the [Daily Breeze](#), [LA.com](#), [The Oakland Press](#), the [Contra Costa Times](#), the [Lowell Sun](#) (Mass.), the [New Haven Register](#) (Conn.), the [El Paso Times](#) (Texas) and the [Daily Freeman](#) (Kingston, N.Y.).
- Dr. Marilene Wang, professor of head and neck surgery, discussed the rise of HPV-related oral and throat cancers in a June 4 [LA Weekly](#) article on the actor's claim.

Weight-Loss Surgery and Diabetics

[Sky News](#) (U.K.) June 6; [CBS News](#), [Medical News Today](#), [Internal Medicine News](#), [Australian Associated Press](#) and [Asian News International](#) June 5, and [Clinical Endocrinology News](#) and [Healio](#) June 4 reported on research led by Dr. Melinda Maggard-Gibbons, assistant professor of surgery, looking at whether gastric bypass and other types of weight-loss surgery can help diabetics who are moderately obese. Maggard-Gibbons was quoted in the coverage.

Fox News Features Operation Mend

The [Fox News Channel's Lou Dobbs Tonight](#) featured a May 31 story on 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 care for U.S. military personnel severely wounded and disfigured during service. Ronald Katz, Operation Mend's founder and a UCLA Health System board member, and Corp. Aaron Mankin, Operation Mend's first patient, were interviewed.

LACMA Magazine Spotlights Physician Wellness Programs to Combat Burnout

The June issue of Physician Magazine included information about the UCLA Health System Medical Staff Health Committee's efforts to reach out to physicians experiencing burnout. The UCLA Physician Wellness Program has been designed to help doctors address their own wellness issues. Dr. Karen Miotto, chair of the health committee and a clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, was interviewed.

Media Key in on Potential Cushing Disease Therapy

[United Press International](#), [The Houston Chronicle](#), [Science Codex](#), and [MDLinx](#) May 31, and [Medical News Today](#) and [MediLexicon](#) June 3 reported on research co-authored by Dr. Anthony Heaney, professor in the UCLA Departments of Medicine and Neurosurgery and co-director of the UCLA Pituitary & Neuroendocrine Tumor Program, finding that a receptor called TR4 is over expressed in pituitary tumors that trigger the overproduction of cortisone, causing the rare but life-threatening Cushing disease.

Diabetes Drugs' Possible Link to Pancreatic Cancer Continue Drawing Headlines

[MedPage Today](#) June 2; [MediaPost](#), [FiercePharma](#), [Accident and Injury Lawyer Blog](#) and [LawyersandSettlements.com](#) May 31, and [The Star-Ledger](#) (Newark, N.J.), [The Legal Examiner](#) (Dallas) and [YCharts](#) May 30 reported 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.

More Work to Do on Heart Failure

[HealthDay News](#) reported May 30 on research led by Dr. Tamara Horwich, assistant professor of medicine in the division of cardiology that found that while outcomes for advanced heart failure patients have improved over the past two decades, one-third of patients still don't survive more than three years after being diagnosed with the condition. Horwich and Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, were quoted. The HealthDay story was carried by [Philly.com](#) and [Health](#).

Auto Exhaust Turns Good Cholesterol Bad

[Radio Caracol](#) (Colombia) and [Union Radio](#) (Venezuela) reported May 24 on a study led by Dr. Jesus Araujo, associate professor of medicine in the division of cardiology 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 was interviewed.

Healthy Living, Healthy Mind

The [Huffington Post and HuffPost Live](#) June 5; Britain's [Daily Mail](#) (U.K.) June 3; [Psych Central](#), [Medical Daily](#) and [Global Post](#) June 2; [USA Today](#), [Jagran Post](#) (India) and [Counsel & Heal](#) June 1, and [RedOrbit](#), [All Voices](#), [Top News](#) and the [Indo-Asian News Service](#) May 31 reported on research conducted by UCLA and the Gallup organization that found that healthy eating, exercising regularly and not smoking were related to better memory abilities among individuals between the ages of 18 and 99. Study authors Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, and Fernando Torres-Gil, professor at UCLA's Luskin School of Public Affairs and associate director of the Longevity Center, were quoted in the coverage.

ABC World News Features Babies and iPads

A June 5 [ABC World News](#) story on the impact of early use of iPads with babies featured an interview with Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center.

Anti-Gay Discrimination Affects Health

An op-ed published May 31 on [CNN.com](#) about discrimination against gay kids highlighted research by Dr. Tumaini R. Coker, assistant professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, showing that gay youth are more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol, and those who have faced stigmatization are more likely to experience depression.

Grant to Study Telehealth

[Modern Healthcare](#) June 3 and [Healthcare Informatics](#) May 29 reported 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 at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, who was quoted in the coverage.

Newborn Screening Detects Heart Defect

[Examiner.com](#) and [News Medical.net](#) reported June 6 on a new pulse oximetry screening for newborns that will become mandatory in California starting July 1. The screening, which Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA has already been offering for the past year, can help detect critical congenital heart defects. Dr. Jeffrey Smith, professor of neonatology; Dr. Mark Sklansky, professor and chief of pediatric cardiology, and Dr. Thomas Klitzner, the Jack H. Skirball Professor of Pediatrics, were quoted.

Emergency Room or Urgent Care?

[Santa Monica Daily Press](#) June 3, [KTTV-Channel 11](#) and [KABC-Channel 7](#) June 4 reported on a proposed partnership between UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and the Santa Monica Fire Department that would allow emergency medical responders to choose whether to take patients to an emergency room or urgent-care facility. Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was quoted in the coverage.

LA Times, Others Report on Brain Activity and Link to Autism

Dr. Carlos Portera-Cailliau, an associate professor in the departments of neurology and neurobiology, was featured in the June 5 [News-Medical.Net](#); June 4 in the [Los Angeles Times](#), [R&D Magazine](#), and [MedicalXpress.com](#), and June 3 in [Examiner.com](#), about his research showing that hyperactive brain cells firing together could be an early indicator of autism and developmental disabilities.

Breast Cancer "Breakthrough Therapy" Gets Attention

Dr. Richard Finn, associate professor of medicine in the division of hematology and oncology and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was interviewed June 3 by [The Oncology Report](#) about research on the promising new breast cancer drug Palbociclib, recently designated a Breakthrough Therapy by the Food and Drug Administration. Finn, the study's principal investigator, presented the findings at the meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

Online Media Focus on Study Showing Poor Bladder Cancer Treatment Compliance

[Urology Times](#) and [Medical News Today](#) June 4 highlighted a study led by Dr. Karim Chamie, assistant professor-in-residence of urology, which found that the population burden of bladder cancer is very high and more intense surveillance and treatment compliance are needed to reduce recurrence and lower the death rate from the disease. Chamie was quoted.

Infectious Disease Doctor Examines Sleeping with Pets

The Los Angeles [Daily News](#) June 3 ran a column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, about some of the health risks associated with sleeping with pets. The column also ran in the [Whittier Daily News](#), the Inland Valley [Daily Bulletin](#), the [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#), the [Pasadena Star-News](#) and the [Daily Breeze](#).

Geriatrician Discusses Decision to Enroll in Business School

[Smart Business](#) June 1 ran a Q&A with Dr. Brandon Koretz, associate professor of clinical medicine in the division of geriatrics, about his decision to enroll in the UCLA Anderson School of Management's MBA program and how it has influenced his view of the healthcare industry.

Predicting a Woman's Final Period

The June issue of [Contraceptive Technology Update](#) reported on research led by Dr. Gail Greendale, professor of medicine in the division of geriatrics and director of the UCLA Women's Health Center. She and her colleagues developed a new way to predict when a woman will have her final menstrual period. Greendale and Dr. Arun Karlamangla, associate professor-in-residence of medicine in the division of geriatrics, were quoted.

Spirituality Magazine Meditates on Alzheimer's Care Program

The May-June issue of [Spirituality & Health](#) published an article about the UCLA Alzheimer's and Dementia Care program, and included tips that caregivers can use to cope with the stress of caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia. Linda Ercoli, director of geriatric psychology, and Dr. Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, were quoted.

Nursing Trade Highlights Report on Non-Communicable Diseases

Linda Sarna, Lulu Wolf-Hassenplug Endowed Chair in Nursing at the UCLA School of Nursing, was interviewed in June 3 in [nurse.com](#) about a report she co-authored for the World Health Organization on non-communicable diseases and the role nurses can play in prevention and control.

Oncology Trade Examines Nurses Responses to Ethical Challenges

Katherine Brown Saltzman, co-director of the UCLA Health System Ethics Center; Carol Pavlish, assistant professor of nursing, and Patricia Jakel, clinical nurse specialist in the Solid Tumor Program at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, discussed ethical dilemmas in cancer care in the May 25 issue of [Oncology Times](#).

Science Website Swallows a Placebo Pill

Aimee Hunter, assistant professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a June 3 [LiveScience.com](#) article about the role placebo pills play in helping researchers understand the effectiveness of medications.

NPR Program Discusses How to Modify Sleep

Jerome Siegel, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured May 27 on the NPR show [Big Picture Science](#) regarding his research on sleep-modifying drugs.

UCLA Live-Tweets Brain Surgery

A recent brain pacemaker–implant surgery at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center that was tweeted live, with pictures and video, by the surgical team and hospital staff was highlighted May 29 by [India TV News](#), May 30 by the [America Blog](#) and [Detroit Free Press](#), May 31 by [News Fix](#), and June 2 by [Pakistan Today](#).

Birth Control App Featured by Physician News Network

[Physician News Network](#) May 30 featured a mobile app developed at UCLA that helps women select birth control. The app was developed by Dr. Aparna Sridhar, a clinical fellow in family planning in the UCLA Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Cancer Researcher Discusses Breast Cancer Inhibitors

Dr. Sara Hurvitz, assistant clinical professor of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology, director of the hematology-oncology breast cancer program and medical director of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center's clinical research unit, was featured in an interview posted June 4 on [ecancer conferences](#) about breast cancer inhibitors. The interview was shot at the IMPAKT Breast Cancer Conference, held May 2-4 in Brussels, Belgium.

BRIEFS

A column in the June 4 [Huffington Post](#) offering tips on maintaining a healthy brain highlighted research led by Eileen Luders, assistant professor at the UCLA Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, showing that people who meditate have, on average, more folds in the brain's cerebral cortex, which has been linked to improved information processing, memory formation and decision making.

An article in the June 3 [Med City](#) about encouraging young adults to enroll in health insurance cited research by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the Fielding School of Public Health which found that more than two million Californians ages 19 to 34 are uninsured.

An article in the [South China Morning Post](#) cited a 2010 study by researchers at the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition which found that capsaicin, the chemical that gives spice to hot peppers, may prompt the body to expend more energy and burn more calories.

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was cited in a June 3 [Becker Hospital Review](#) article focused on academic medical centers based on a *Columbus Dispatch* story that analyzed cash on hand, as well as debt service and other financial information for nine academic medical centers across the country.

QUOTABLES

Dr. James Cherry, professor of pediatric infectious diseases at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted May 20 in a [Science Now](#) article about an uptick in whooping cough cases due to subpar vaccines.

Dr. Andrew Drexler, director of the Gonda (Goldschmied) Diabetes Center, was interviewed June 5 on a CBS News report about Food and Drug Administration hearings to re-evaluate the safety of the diabetes drug Avandia, which had been previously restricted by the panel due to reports that it increased heart attack risk. The report ran on numerous CBS affiliates, including [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KCAL-Channel 9](#), [KRQE-TV](#) (Albuquerque, N.M.), [WBNG-TV](#) (Binghamton, N.Y.), [WBZ-TV](#) (Boston, Mass.), [KGBT-TV](#) (Brownsville, Texas), [WCAX-TV](#) (Burlington, Vt.), [KGAN-TV](#) (Cedar Rapids, Iowa), [KFXA-TV](#) (Cedar Rapids, Iowa), [WOIO-TV](#) (Cleveland, Ohio), [WCBI-TV](#) (Columbus, Miss.), [WHBF-TV](#) (Davenport, Iowa), and many others across the nation.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted June 3 in a [HealthDay News](#) article that was

picked up by [U.S. News & World Report](#) about a study suggesting a possible link between cholesterol-lowering drugs and muscle and joint problems. The HealthDay story also ran on [EverydayHealth](#). In addition, Fonarow commented in a June 5 [HealthDay News](#) story on research showing that an irregular heart beat in older adults may be associated with mental decline and dementia. The HealthDay story also ran on [WebMD](#) and [Philly.com](#).

Dr. Christopher Giza, associate professor of neurosurgery and pediatric neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented June 5 in the [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) about how concussions can affect girls and boys differently. The article was carried by the Sacramento Bee.

Dr. David Heber, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, commented in the June 3 People Magazine regarding celebrity diets.

Dr. Carlos Lerner, medical director of the Children's Health Center at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted in the June issue of Men's Health magazine in an article providing parenting tips for different ages and stages of childhood.

Emanuel Maidenberg, director of the UCLA Cognitive Behavior Therapy Clinic, and an associate clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a May 24 [HealthDay News](#) story about how some thrill seekers such as storm chasers may take greater and greater risks over time.

Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted June 5 in a Reuters story on the pressure to control costs of new breakthrough therapy cancer drugs.

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor of family medicine, was interviewed June 3 on Univision's "Despierta America" about aspects of health care reform.

Dr. Christopher Saigal, associate professor of urology, was quoted in the June issue of [805 Living Magazine](#) in a story on low testosterone levels in men.

Jerome Siegel, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a May 30 [Refinery29.com](#) article about the sleep disorder drug Provigil that is increasingly being prescribed "off-label" for mental clarity and to prevent fatigue.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, was quoted in a May 31 [Marketwatch.com](#) article on successful aging.

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