



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Jun 1 – 7, 2012**

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Wired, Fox News Cover Launch of Face Transplantation Program

[Wired](#) reported June 6; [KFI 640AM](#) reported June 3; and [KTTV-Channel 11](#) aired May 31 reports on UCLA Health System's launch of the West Coast's first face-transplantation program. Dr. Kodi Azari, chief of reconstructive transplantation and associate professor of surgery; and Dr. Reza Jarrahy, surgical co-director and assistant professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery, were interviewed.

WebMD Consults Neurosurgeon about Brain Conditions

Dr. Marvin Bergsneider, professor of neurosurgery and director of the benign skull-based and pituitary tumor program and adult hydrocephalus program, was interviewed for a June 5 Q&A by [WebMD](#) about Sheryl Crow's diagnosis with benign meningioma, a cancer of the tissue lining the brain. He was also featured in a June 5 [WebMD](#) interview about hydrocephalus, which mimics the symptoms of Alzheimer's but is reversible by surgery.

ICON Awards Event Draws Press

The Beverly Hills Courier reported June 1 and [Yahoo News](#), [Boston Globe](#), [Sacramento Bee](#), [Los Angeles Business Journal](#), [Los Angeles Daily News](#) and [Daily Breeze](#), among others, ran a May 31 news brief about the UCLA Center for Longevity's 2012 June 6 ICON Awards. The event honored Sidney Poitier for artistic excellence; Jane and Terry Semel and Dr. Peter Whybrow, director of the Semel Institute, for visionary leadership in science and medicine; and Shlomo and Steve Rechnitz, for visionary leadership in business and philanthropy.

Rise in Kidney Stones Attracts Headlines

[Urology Times](#) and [Modern Medicine](#) reported June 6; [MedPage Today](#) reported May 24; and [Consumer Affairs](#) reported May 25 on a study showing that the incidence of kidney stones has increased as rates of obesity and diabetes have risen in the U.S. Dr. Charles Scales Jr., a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Clinical Scholar in urology and medicine, and Dr. Christopher Saigal, associate professor of urology, were featured. A May 25 HealthDay News story was syndicated by [iVillage.com](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), [MSN.com](#) and [M.D. News.com](#).

Chef Jamie Oliver Cooks at UCLA

The [Los Angeles Times](#) reported May 21 on celebrity chef Jamie Oliver and the UCLA Health System partnering on a daylong event at UCLA that included lessons for kids on how to prepare nutritious meals and make healthy food choices.

Los Angeles Times Explores Children and Dental Health

An article in the June 3 [Los Angeles Times](#) about the dental needs of California children cited a study by Nadereh Pourat, adjunct associate professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of research and planning at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, that assessed dentist-to-patient ratios for each county in the state and found that more than half a million children missed school in 2007 because of dental problems.

KPCC Examines Phineas Gage's Head

KPCC-89.3 FM's [Madeline Brand](#) show on June 5 interviewed Jack Van Horn, an assistant professor of neurology and a member of the laboratory of Neuro Imaging, on his research examining brain injuries suffered by Phineas Gage. In 1848, Gage survived an accident in which a 43-inch iron rod was blasted through his left cheek and out of the top of his head.

Paralyzed Rats Back on Their Feet

Articles published May 31 in [Science Now](#) and the [Los Angeles Times](#) about researchers helping paralyzed rats learn to walk again cited previous research on restoring voluntary movement in paralyzed rodents and humans by Reggie Edgerton, distinguished professor of neurobiology.

S.M. Mirror Applauds Medical Educator's Award

The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) ran a June 3 story on Lawrence “Hy” Doyle, executive director of the Program in Medical Education (PRIME) at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Doyle was one of three educational leaders honored by the California Wellness Foundation as a 2012 Champion of Health Professions Diversity for his efforts to improve the health and wellness of California’s underserved communities.

Atlantic, PBS Explore Care at Academic Medical Centers

A June 5 article in the [Atlantic](#) about patient care costs and healthcare quality at academic medical centers referenced Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. The June 1 [Summit Daily News](#) profiled the PBS documentary “Money and Medicine,” which features a variety of doctor/patient stories filmed at UCLA Health System hospitals that explore issues affecting the U.S. healthcare system.

No Texting While Parenting

The [New Jersey Star-Ledger](#) ran a June 3 column by Dr. Neal Halfon, professor of pediatrics, health services and public policy and director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities, suggesting that frequent texting and talking on the phone by parents may adversely affect their children’s development. The article also appeared June 4 in Salt Lake City’s [Deseret News](#).

Immune Cells’ Role in Lou Gehrig’s Disease

City News Service, [Emax Health](#), the [Century City Patch](#), [Science Daily](#), [Health Canal](#) and [Medical Express](#) reported June 5 on research suggesting that the immune cells of people with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), or Lou Gehrig’s disease, may play a role in damaging the neurons in the spinal cord. Dr. Milan Fiala, a researcher in the surgery department; and undergraduate student Guanghao Liu led the study.

Doctor Warns About Choking Risks for Kids

Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA and associate professor of head and neck surgery, wrote a column published in the June issue of [Kalamazoo Parent](#) magazine about avoiding potentially deadly food choking accidents in small children.

Pediatric Cardiology Earns National Accreditation

The [Examiner](#) reported June 1 that the UCLA Fetal Cardiology program at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA received accreditation from the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine for fetal echocardiography, which uses ultrasound to screen for fetal heart problems in pregnant women.

Funding for Pediatric Epilepsy Noted

[Epilepsy Research](#) (U.K.) reported June 1 that Dr. Joyce Wu, associate professor of pediatric neurology, was awarded \$118,000 to advance research into pediatric epilepsy, including forms that do not respond to medication. The grant was provided by Today’s and Tomorrow’s Children Fund, which awards annual gifts to support the research of UCLA pediatric faculty members. Dr. Sherin Devaskar, executive chair of pediatrics, physician-in-chief at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA and assistant vice chancellor for children’s health, was quoted.

Melanoma Resistance Research Featured by OncoLive

A June 6 article in [OncoLive](#) about research on melanoma cited a study by Dr. Roger Lo, assistant professor of dermatology and a researcher at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, that identified several ways in which a particular type of melanoma can become resistant to a promising experimental cancer drug.

How Fructose Disrupts Memory, Learning

Oman’s [Muscat Daily](#) reported June 6 and [La Opinion](#) reported May 27 on a UCLA study showing that a high-fructose diet can slow the brain and hamper memory and learning in rats — and how omega-3 fatty acids can minimize the damage. Fernando Gomez-Pinilla, professor of neurosurgery, was quoted.

Examiner Reports Mattel Children’s Hospital Rank

The [Examiner](#) noted June 6 that Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was nationally ranked in eight specialty categories in U.S. News & World Report's 2012-13 Best Children's Hospitals rankings. Dr. Sherin Devaskar, Mattel's physician-in-chief and assistant vice chancellor for children's health, was cited.

Dean Addresses Strategic Planning at Nursing School

Courtney Lyder, dean of the School of Nursing, discussed leadership and change management in June's Los Angeles edition of [Smart Business](#).

Internet News Sites Cover Notch Study

A study by Gerry Weinmaster, professor of biological chemistry and a researcher with UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center, about cell-to-cell communication activating Notch signaling was featured June 1 by [Science Daily](#), [Nano Werk](#), [News-Medical.net](#) and [E! Science News](#). The stories also quoted Laurence Meloty-Kapella, a postdoctoral researcher in Weinmaster's lab.

BRIEFS

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, were cited June 6 in [Los Angeles Times](#) and [NPR.org](#) articles about a nonprofit organization's recent report on patient safety at U.S. hospitals.

[Examiner.com](#) ran a June 7 calendar item for a free men's health seminar by Dr. Robert Reiter, professor of urology, on laser treatment for enlarged prostate.

An article in the May 30 (subscription) [Financial Times Adviser](#) cited Dr. Peter Whybrow, director of the Semel Institute, and his views on the uncontrolled greed that characterized Wall Street before the financial crisis of 2008.

QUOTABLES

Dr. David Baron, family medicine physician and former chief of staff at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, commented in a May 31 [KNX AM1070](#) report about New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg's attempt to restrict sales of sugary beverages.

Dr. Richard Bowen, an orthopaedic surgeon with the Orthopaedic Institute at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was quoted June 1 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) column about people's problems with health insurance providers.

Dr. Ravi Dave, staff cardiologist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and associate clinical professor of medicine, was quoted June 4 by [WebMD](#) about a recent study suggesting that chronic endurance training may be harmful to heart health.

Dr. John FitzGerald, associate clinical professor of medicine, division of rheumatology, commented in a June 5 [Atlantic](#) article about an increase in cases of gout in the U.S.

Suzette Glasner-Edwards, a research psychologist in the Integrated Substance Abuse Programs at the Semel Institute, was quoted June 5 by the [Huffington Post](#) about the pros and cons of over-the-phone counseling for patients with depression.

Nalo Hamilton, professor at the School of Nursing, commented May 29 about second careers in nursing in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's [Sharing Nursing's Knowledge](#) e-newsletter.

Dr. Mary Hardy, a nutrition and food supplement expert with the Simms/Mann UCLA Center for Integrative Oncology, part of the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, commented in a May 24 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about the use of seaweed in food supplements and skin care products.

Dr. Sara Hurvitz, assistant clinical professor of medicine and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted June 5 by [ABC News](#) about a new treatment for advanced breast cancer.

Dr. Reza Jarrahy, assistant professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery and surgical co-director of the UCLA Face Transplantation program, was quoted June 2 by the [Miami Herald](#) about surgical options for a man whose face was attacked by another man. The article was syndicated June 4 in multiple papers, including the [Sacramento Bee](#) and [Bellingham Herald](#) (WA).

Gerald Kominski, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and a professor at the Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted May 31 by the [Los Angeles Times](#) about a health insurer issuing rebates to small businesses in California.

Dr. David McAllister, professor of orthopedic surgery and chief of sports medicine, was quoted June 1 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) column about people's problems with health insurance providers.

Dr. Anita Nelson, professor of clinical obstetrics and gynecology, was quoted June 5 in a [New York Times](#) article about emergency contraception.

Steven Nusinowitz, associate professor of ophthalmology at the Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA, commented June 5 in an [Associated Press](#) story about whether staring at the sun during an eclipse damages your eyes.

Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of hematology–oncology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted June 7 in [Nature](#) and [Cancer Network](#) about an experimental drug that has been shown in clinical trials to help fight several types of cancer. In addition, Ribas was quoted June 2 in [New York Times](#) and [Agence France-Presse](#) articles about an experimental drug that has been shown in clinical trials to help fight several types of cancer.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, commented June 5 on [ABC News.com](#) about how a positive attitude and sense of humor may help us live longer. Small is author of "The Alzheimer's Prevention Program."

David Teplow, professor of neurology and interim director of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research, was quoted May 7 by [ABCNews.com](#) about converting skin cells from mice and humans into brain stem cells as a possible future treatment for Alzheimer's.

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