



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT

For the week of **June 5-11, 2015**

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BRIEFS

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Wall Street Journal, other Media Highlight Medicare Abuse

Dr. Jack Needleman, professor and chair of the department of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured by the media for research he co-authored showing that long-term care hospitals are keeping patients longer than necessary because of the way that Medicare determines payment rates. Coverage included June 8 in the [Wall Street Journal](#), [HealthCanal](#), [HealthAffairs.org](#), and an interview on KNX 1070FM; June 9 in [MedicalXpress](#) and [SierraSunTimes.com](#); and June 10 in the [HoustonChronicle.com](#).

Breast Cancer Research Director Honored

[Forbes](#), [Stockhouse](#), [Radar Online](#), and [Monsters & Critics](#) June 5; [Marketwatch](#) June 8; and [Examiner.com](#), and [BusinessWire](#) June 9 reported on Revlon CEO Lorenzo Delpani, chairman Ronald O. Perelman and global brand ambassador Halle Berry honoring Dr. Dennis Slamon, director of clinical/translational research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and director of the Revlon/UCLA Breast Cancer Center, with a \$1 million donation for his outstanding achievements in cancer research. Slamon was quoted.

Operation Mend Helps Wounded Warrior Heal

[WRNN-TV](#), a regional news network in New York, June 4 and [WWOR-Channel 9](#) (N.J.) June 8 featured profile stories of Angelica Jimenez, a retired United States Marine who was wounded in Iraq 10 years ago when a suicide bomber attacked her vehicle. She has undergone reconstructive surgery through the UCLA Operation Mend program and has also started teaching Zumba classes to help with her mental recovery.

Autism Study Draws Attention

[Examiner.com](#), [MedicalXpress](#) and [Healio](#) June 10; [News-Medical.net](#) and [HealthCanal](#) June 11 reported on a UCLA study that found that some youth on the autism spectrum have brains that react differently to sensory stimuli than their peers. Shulamite Green, a postdoctoral fellow in the Semel Institute, and Mirella Dapretto, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences in the Semel Institute, were quoted.

Hospital Disaster Drill Highlighted

[HealthCanal](#) reported June 10 on a plane crash scenario disaster drill held at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center to improve preparedness. Dr. Lynne McCullough, director of the Emergency Department; Kurt Kainsinger, director of the UCLA Office of Emergency Preparedness; Dr. Rick Harrison, UCLA chief medical officer; Dr. Mark Morocco, a professor of emergency medicine and the attending physician in the Emergency Department; and Dr. Gill Cryer, chief of trauma at the hospital, were quoted.

Huff Post Notes Lack of Sleep Promotes Aging

Dr. Judith E. Carroll, an assistant professor in the department of psychiatry and a member of the UCLA Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology, was featured in a June 8 [Huffington Post](#) article about her study suggesting that even one night of not getting enough sleep in older adults activates important biological pathways that promote aging.

People Magazine Suggests How Best to Protect Your Children

Dr. Gail Wyatt, professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Sexual Health Program at the Semel Institute, was featured in a June 4 [People Magazine](#) article about child sexual abuse, and how to provide guidance to your child to avoid it through communication and supervision by the parent.

L.A. Broadcast Media Report on Brain Injury Patient

[KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KCAL-Channel 9](#) and [KABC-Channel 7](#) June 9, and [KNBC-Channel 4](#) June 10 reported on a UCLA brain injury patient who was injured in a traffic accident in Malibu.

Intervention Boosts Patient Satisfaction with Care

[HealthDay News](#) reported June 3 on research led by Dr. Gaurav Banka finding that when internal medicine resident physicians were provided with patient satisfaction education that included a conference, feedback, monthly recognition, and incentives for high patient satisfaction scores, patient satisfaction scores increased. The number of patients expressing satisfaction with their care jumped by 8 percent. Banka, a fellow in the UCLA Division of Cardiology, was quoted.

ProPublica Highlights Findings on Tranquilizer Usage

A June 10 [ProPublica](#) report on Medicare payments for tranquilizers highlighted a 2012 study led by Dr. Michael Ong, associate professor in residence of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that many patients continued using benzodiazepines after Congress banned coverage in Medicare Part D and that some turned to more powerful psychiatric drugs. Ong was quoted.

Websites Feature Brain Imaging

[ScienceBlog](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [Examiner.com](#) and [News-Medical](#) June 4 covered a review article on the increasing use of brain imaging as a tool to measure and help manage cognitive decline. The imaging findings can help spur lifestyle changes in patients that may help reduce risk of Alzheimer's disease. UCLA authors Cyrus Raji, senior resident in the department of radiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Dr. David Merrill, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, were quoted.

Palisadian Post Features Surgeon

The June 4 Palisadian Post highlighted Dr. Charles Brunicardi, chief of general surgery at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, who received the 2015 award for "Outstanding Physician Colleague of the Year." Each year the nurses at the UCLA hospitals vote to select a physician who is a role model in recognizing the important part nurses play in relationship-based care teams that help provide the best outcomes for patients.

10 Medication Mistakes You May Be Making

[Everyday Health](#) June 10 interviewed Dr. Gerardo Moreno, assistant professor in family medicine and co-director of the UCLA MyMeds program, for an article focusing on the fact that adults over 40 with chronic conditions earned a C+ when it came to taking their drugs properly — and one in seven were given a grade of F. Moreno and other experts provided tips on taking prescription drugs and ways to avoid the top 10 medication mistakes.

Geriatrician's Column Helps Readers Get a Leg Up on Lower-Extremity Swelling

Dr. Maija Sanna, staff geriatrician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and assistant clinical professor, authored a June 9 [Santa Monica Mirror](#) column on edema in older adults.

Breathmobiles Gasp for Survival

The Los Angeles [Daily News](#) featured June 7 a story on the lack of funding to support mobile health programs such as the UCLA Breathmobile that offered asthma care to children at schools. Dr. Maria Garcia-Lloret, assistant professor of pediatric allergy and immunology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, described the impact of losing the funding and having to shutter the program.

Heart Transplant Survivor Helps Others in Need

[KNBC-Channel 4](#) featured June 7 a story on a woman who received a heart transplant who now "pays it

forward” to other heart transplant patients. In addition to offering moral support to patients and families, she also runs a nonprofit organization called Ava’s Heart that helps fund housing, travel and other expenses to pediatric and adult patients before and after their transplant. Dr. Juan Alejos, professor of pediatric cardiology and medical director of the pediatric heart transplant program at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, was interviewed.

Unearthing Growth Factor-Free Bone Regeneration

The June issue of [Plastic Surgery News](#) profiled Dr. Justine Lee, assistant professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery, and described research she is conducting on the study of engineered human bone.

A (Future) Doctor in the House

The [Jewish Journal](#) featured June 10 a profile on an 18-year-old student who has been gaining experience in the medical field as a volunteer with UCLA Health and in the laboratory of Dr. Steven Dubinett, professor of medicine, pathology and laboratory medicine, and molecular and medical pharmacology.

USA Today Explores Failure to Protect Soccer Players from Concussion

Dr. Christopher Giza, director of the UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program and a professor of pediatrics and neurosurgery at UCLA’s David Geffen School of Medicine and Mattel Children’s Hospital, was interviewed in a June 10 [USA Today](#) article and online video about an international soccer association’s failure to address concussion in its athletes, particularly female soccer players.

Abortion Study Garners Coverage

[MedPage Today](#) reported June 10 on a study that found no difference between the effectiveness of medical and surgical abortions during the first trimester. Dr. Luu Ireland, family planning fellow and clinical instructor in the UCLA Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, led the study.

Fusion Features UCLA Sleep Expert

[Fusion](#) June 9 featured the expertise of Dr. Alon Avidan, director of the UCLA Sleep Center, in a story on sleep paralysis.

Media Notes Success of Health Care in Brazil

Dr. James Macinko, a professor of health policy and management and of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured in June 4 [MedicalXpress](#) and June 9 [MedPage.com](#) articles about a Perspective column he wrote for the June edition of the New England Journal of Medicine about the success of universal healthcare in Brazil.

Parks Over Pills? Public Health Professor Promotes Healthy Community Design

Dr. Richard Jackson, professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured June 10 in [Connect Savannah](#) on how he discussed the need for infrastructure that promotes healthy, active communities in his keynote speech at the second annual Georgia Trail Summit.

Keytruda Improves Tumor Response in People with Advanced Melanoma

[Clinical Oncology](#) reported June 10 on a collaborative study led by UCLA doctors finding that pembrolizumab (Keytruda) improved tumor responses, duration of responses, and extended the patient’s life, with less severe side effects compared to the current standard of care treatment with ipilimumab for people with advanced melanoma. Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of medicine in the division of hematology/oncology and director of the tumor immunology program area in UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted.

New Lung Cancer Drug Shows Encouraging Phase 2 Trial Results

[Business Wire](#) May 31 and [MarketsWired](#) June 8 reported on phase 2 clinical trial results involving more than 450 patients with non-small cell lung cancer who were treated with rociletinib. So far, patients have shown a durable response and the overall results have been encouraging. The progression free survival rate in patients was 13 months. The results were presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology

meeting in May. Dr. Jonathan Goldman, health sciences clinical instructor in the division of hematology/oncology and a member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted.

BRIEFS

UCLA Operation Mend was cited June 10 in a [Chronicle of Philanthropy](#) brief mentioning that the program, which provides medical services to wounded warriors, recently received a three-year \$15.7 million grant from the Wounded Warrior Project to expand its mental health services as part of a new multi-center network.

A June 5 article in [Look to the Stars](#) about the upcoming American Cancer Society 2015 Birthday Ball mentioned this year's Mission Honoree Dr. Jonathan Fielding, professor-in-residence of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of cancer prevention and control research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was mentioned June 8 by the [Chicago Tribune](#) as a co-investigator on a study of anastrozole versus tamoxifen.

A June 9 [Associated Press](#) story cited data on child obesity from the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

Research by Dr. Beate Ritz, professor and chair of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, on the effects of auto emissions on infant and child health was cited June 7 in an [Argus Leader](#) opinion piece about gasoline's health hazards.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Deanna Attai, UCLA breast surgeon based in Burbank and assistant clinical professor of surgery, was quoted in a May 30 [Associated Press](#) article on a study showing that removing more tissue during breast cancer surgery greatly lowers the risk that some cancer will be left behind and require additional surgery.

Dr. Khalid Eltawil, sleep medicine specialist at UCLA Health-South Bay and assistant clinical professor, pulmonary and critical care, was quoted in a June 10 [WebMD](#) article on a number of studies showing that cognitive behavioral therapy, better known as "talk therapy," helps people with insomnia fall asleep more quickly.

Dr. Gerald Kominski, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed June 10 by [California Healthline](#) for his insight into the effect of accountable care organizations on California health care. He also commented on factors 26-year-olds must consider when they are no longer covered by parents' health insurance in a June 10 [KPCC 89.3FM](#) radio news piece.

Dr. Sande Okelo, assistant professor of pediatric pulmonology and director of the Pediatric Asthma Center at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was interviewed June 10 on [KNX 1070AM](#) about a Kaiser Health analysis showing the rates of emergency room visits for asthma symptoms in children rose from 2005 to 2012.

Dr. Roel Ophoff, a professor of human genetics and psychiatry at the Semel Institute, commented June 8 in [The Verge](#) and [GeneticsExperts.org](#) articles about a study suggesting genetic variations that can collectively increase a person's risk of schizophrenia and bipolar disorder can also be used to predict creativity.

Dr. Anjay Rastogi, clinical director of the UCLA Dialysis Program, was quoted June 6 in an [Associated Press](#) story about the closure of the only dialysis center in American Samoa due to a recall of a solution used in the procedure.

Dr. Dylan Roby, senior research scientist at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and assistant professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted by [Modern Healthcare](#) June 6 in a story about how Medicaid expansion under Obamacare is affecting revenue and operating margins in hospitals around the U.S.

Dr. Lee Rosen, hematologist and oncologist, UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and health sciences clinical professor of medicine, was interviewed June 2 on KPCC 89.3FM's program [AirTalk](#) with Larry Mantle about a new National Cancer Institute study examining targeted therapies for cancer.

Dr. Gary Schiller, professor of medicine in the division of hematology/oncology and a member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center was quoted May 31 in a [MarketWatch](#) story on patients who underwent allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplant in the VALOR trial, a study of vosaroxin and cytarabine in patients with relapsed or refractory acute myeloid leukemia.

Dr. Steven Wallace, chair of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented June 11 in the [Los Angeles Times](#) about how leaving significant numbers of residents uninsured may hinder savings expected under the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Deborah Wong, assistant clinical professor of medicine in the division of hematology/oncology, commented in a June 5 [CNN en Español](#) report on an international study that found that the immune systems of 58 percent of patients treated with a combination of two immunotherapy drugs, ipilimumab and nivolumab, fought against advanced melanoma and prevented it from spreading for a year.

Dr. Gail Wyatt, professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Sexual Health Program at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a May 26 [Men's Health](#) article about how men can maintain their sex drive in a long-term relationship.

Dr. Lorraine Young, clinical professor of medicine and co-chief of clinical services in the division of dermatology, commented in a May 18 [Men's Health](#) online article on identifying, treating and preventing cold sores.

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