



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT  
For the week of June 7-13, 2013**

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## Electric Boost Helps Brain Learn Better

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#### **Severe Morning Sickness Study Receives Widespread Media Coverage**

[Examiner.com](#), [Medical Horizons](#), [Nurse.com](#), [Science Codex](#), [Health News Digest](#), [Consumer Affairs](#), [BioSpace](#), [Scrubs Report](#), [Science Daily](#), [Slate](#), [Obstetrician Digest](#), [WNYT-TV](#) (N.Y.), [WAGT-TV](#) (Ga.), [WGRZ-TV](#) (N.Y.), [KGAN-TV](#) (Iowa), [KWWL-TV](#) (Iowa), [KZVN-TV](#) (Fla.), [WSYM-TV](#) (Mich.), [KOB-TV](#) (Ore.), [KFOR-TV](#) (Okla.), [WHEC-TV](#) (N.Y.), [KTEN-TV](#) (Okla.), [KSDK-TV](#) (Mo.), [WPTV-TV](#) (Fla.), [WFMJ-TV](#) (Ohio) and dozens of other television news stations nationwide June 10; [WDTN-TV](#) (Ohio), [WXJB-TV](#) (N.D.), [KLVY-TV](#) (N.D.), [WLEX-TV](#) (Ky.), [WNBC-TV](#) (N.Y.), [WPBN-TV](#) (Mich.), [ScienceBlog.com](#), [News-Medical.net](#), [Bold Sky](#), [Parent Herald](#), [Growing Your Baby](#), [eMaxHealth](#), [All Voices](#), [Innovations Report](#), [What to Expect](#) and [Pregnancy and Childbirth](#) June 11 and [Pregnancy and Baby](#), [HealthCanal](#) and the [Connecticut Post](#) June 12 reported on a study that found that women with a severe form of morning sickness who take antihistamines to help them sleep through their debilitating nausea are significantly more likely to experience adverse pregnancy outcomes. Marlena Fejzo, assistant professor of research in obstetrics and gynecology and the study's primary investigator, was quoted.

#### **Santa Monica Shootings**

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, received victims from the June 7 Santa Monica shootings. Dr. Lynne McCullough, medical director of the Saperstein Emergency Department at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center; Dr. Marshall Morgan, chief of emergency medicine at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and Shannon O'Kelley, chief operating officer, UCLA Health System, spoke at a June 7 news conference. Coverage included [KTTV-Channel 11](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KNBC-Channel 4](#), [Yahoo! News](#), [Detroit Free Press](#), the Los Angeles [Daily News](#), the [Associated Press](#), [USA Today](#), [Herald Sun News](#), [Pasadena Star-News](#), the [Business Standard](#), the [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#), [KABC 790AM](#), [WGN-TV](#) (Chicago), [United Press International](#), [Fox News.com](#), [MSN 9 News](#) (Australia), the [Raycom News Network](#) and numerous other outlets. A patient who was later discharged from Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was interviewed June 9 by [FOX News](#) from her hospital bed.

#### **Study on Discovery of New Stem Cell in Fat Continues to Garner Coverage**

[Affordable Healthcare Magazine](#) and [Ultra Trends](#) June 5; [U.S. News & World Report](#), [NECN-TV](#) (Mass.), [Dialogo Y Deportes](#), [Los Tiempos](#) and the [Economist](#) June 6; [Beverly Hills Courier](#) and [Gate Biotech](#) June 7; [Forbes](#) June 8; [eMaxHealth](#), [Investor Stem Cell](#) and [Healthline](#) June 9, and [AARP](#), [Tech Post](#), [Informador](#), [Molecular Lab](#) and [Nano Bio Technology](#) June 10 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 the UCLA Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, led the study.

#### **Media Highlight Diabetes Drugs' Possible Link to Pancreatic Cancer**

The [British Medical Journal](#) and Channel 4's "[Dispatches](#)" (U.K.) June 10, and [Reuters](#) June 12 highlighted 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.

#### **KABC Highlights a Simple Test for Stroke**

Dr. Lucas Restrepo, assistant professor of neurology, was featured in a June 6 [KABC-Channel 7](#) segment about the American Heart Association's "Simple Seven Test" that people can do to minimize their risk of having a stroke. The seven criteria are cholesterol, blood pressure, blood sugar, activity level, diet, smoking and weight.

#### **Tech Website Highlights Inexpensive EEG Device**

Nicole Prause, a member of the research faculty in the department of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a June 6 [Motherboard.com](#) article about a wireless skull cap originally meant for video

game players that has been adapted as an inexpensive Electroencephalogram or EEG machine, used to measure brainwaves as they fluctuate as you think and feel. Prause uses the device in her research of human sexuality.

### **NBC Latino Spotlights Blum Center on Latin American Health and Poverty**

[NBC Latino](#) June 8 spotlighted the 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. The report referenced the Center's May 1 symposium exploring the topics. Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor of family medicine and the Center's director, was quoted.

### **Examiner.com Highlights UCLA Ranking in Physician Survey**

[Examiner.com](#) reported June 10 that the UCLA Medical Group has earned a four-star ranking, the highest achievement possible, in the California Association of Physician Groups' seventh annual Standards of Excellence survey. Dr. Samuel A. Skootsky, chief medical officer of the UCLA Faculty Practice and Medical Group, was quoted.

### **Infectious Disease Doctor Examines International Health Education**

The Los Angeles [Daily News](#) June 10 ran a column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, about the UCLA International Development Studies program and the role that health education fills in it. 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](#).

### **Health Site Follows International Medical Graduate Program**

[HealthyCal.org](#) reported June 11 on 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 quoted.

### **Infectious Diseases Doctor Discusses HPV and Throat Cancer**

Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, was interviewed June 7 in a [Huffington Post](#) article about the connection between human papillomavirus (HPV) and oral cancer in an article about the possible cause of actor Michael Douglas' throat cancer.

### **Online Media Focus on Study Showing Poor Bladder Cancer Treatment Compliance**

[WorldNgayon](#) June 8 and [HemOncToday](#) June 10 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.

### **Breast Cancer "Breakthrough Therapy" Gets Attention**

Dr. Richard Finn, associate professor of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was interviewed June 6 by [OncologyLive](#) 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.

### **Endometrial Cancer Study Cited by Internet Media Outlets**

[Examiner.com](#), [News-Medical.net](#), [Scrubs Report](#), [Red Orbit](#) and [Science Codex](#) June 11, and [Medical Horizons](#) and [Doctor Tipster](#) June 12 reported on a study that found Progesterone, a female hormone that can be used as a therapy for endometrial cancer, eliminates tumor cells indirectly by binding to its

receptor in connective tissue cells residing in the tumor microenvironment. Dr. Sanaz Memarzadeh, assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology and director of the G.O. Discovery Lab at UCLA, was quoted.

### **Probiotic Yogurt Alters Brain Function**

[Sci-News](#) reported June 7 on a study showing for the first time that ingesting probiotic bacteria can affect brain function in humans. Dr. Kirsten Tillisch, associate professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases, was quoted.

### **ID'ing Mass Killers Before They Kill**

The June 9 [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) featured an op-ed by Dr. Brennan Spiegel, associate professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases and of public health, describing his interaction with an individual responsible for a recent mass shooting at a Pittsburgh psychiatric institute and recommending "crowd-sleuthing" as a way of collectively identifying potentially violent people.

### **How Smart Phones Are Changing Us**

CBS's June 9 "[Sunday Morning](#)" featured Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, about the ubiquity of smart phones and how their use affects interpersonal communication.

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

[The Munich Eye](#) reported May 13 and Canada's [Calgary Herald](#) reported June 12 on a study by UCLA researchers and colleagues 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. Study author Dr. Jesus Araujo, associate professor of medicine and director of environmental cardiology, was quoted.

### **Protecting the Aging Brain**

The June 12 online program "[Larry King Now](#)" featured Dr. Gary Small, the Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, about the aging brain, how to prevent Alzheimer's disease and the effects of drugs and alcohol on the brain.

### **Detecting Hidden Heart Problems**

The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) reported June 9 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.

### **UCLA Gets Grant to Study Telehealth**

[EHR Intelligence](#) reported June 12 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.

### **UCLA Lymphoma Patient Urges Asian-Americans to Register as Possible Donors**

[KNBC-Channel 4](#) June 11 featured a story on a UCLA cancer patient at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, who is in search of a bone marrow donor. The young woman and friends are encouraging Asian-Americans to register their DNA so that she and others of Asian descent will be more likely to find a potentially life-saving match.

### **Electric Boost Helps Brain Learn Better**

The [Pakistan Observer](#) reported June 11 on a study led by Dr. Itzhak Fried, professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine and professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, showing that human memory can be improved by electrically stimulating a key area in the brain as it learns to navigate a new environment. Fried is quoted.

## QUOTABLES

Dr. Kodi Azari, chief of reconstructive transplantation and associate professor of surgery, was quoted June 4 in [The Verge](#) in an article about a woman who underwent a full face transplant in Boston earlier this year.

Dr. Sherin Devaskar, physician-in-chief of Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted June 13 in a special section of the [Los Angeles Times](#) reporting on what makes children's hospitals unique.

Dr. Eric Esrailian, co-chief of the division of digestive diseases, commented June 7 in an [NBC.com](#) story about early research that may lead to development of a blood test to detect colon cancer in the future.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted June 10 in a [HealthDay News](#) article that also ran in [U.S. News & World Report](#) about a study suggesting that lower-than-normal blood pressure may weaken the brains of individuals with cardiovascular disease.

Dr. Peter Galier, internal medicine specialist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and associate clinical professor of medicine at the Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented June 7 in a [HealthDay](#) article about a study showing that obese people trust diet advice when it comes from overweight doctors. The story also ran in [U.S. News & World Report](#).

Dr. Sarah Gee, clinical instructor in the division of dermatology, commented June 9 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about new labels on sunscreen products.

Dr. Chiaki Jutabha, assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted in the June edition of South Bay magazine in an article offering tips for new parents.

Dr. Steven Ross, family medicine physician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and associate clinical professor at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented June 12 in a [HealthDay News](#) story on research showing short walks after meals may lower the risk of diabetes.

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