



## **UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT**

**For the week of June 20-26, 2014**

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**Wall Street Journal, Others Report on Higher Rates of Autism**

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 showing that when compared with children born to white American mothers, children of foreign-born women who are black, Central or South American, Filipino and Vietnamese had a higher risk of autism, as did children of U.S.-born African Americans and Hispanics. Coverage included June 23 in the [Wall Street Journal](#), the Los Angeles [Daily News](#), [Daily Breeze](#), [Diarios Las Americas](#), and [InsurancenewsNet.com](#); and June 24 in [HealthDay News](#), [Philly.com](#), [MedicalXpress](#), KTLA-Channel 5, and the [Sierra Sun Times](#).

### **Brain Reboot Study Continues to Garner Coverage**

[E! Science News](#) June 10; [Guardian Liberty Voice](#) and [Lab Manager Magazine](#) June 13; KCBS radio in San Francisco, [ABC Science](#) (Australia) and [io9](#) June 19; [Science World Report](#) June 20; [Science 2.0](#), [Bruins Nation](#) and [Imperial Valley News](#) June 22, and [ACS Review](#) June 23 reported on a study by Dr. Andrew Hudson, an assistant professor in anesthesiology, that provides important clues about the processes used by structurally normal brains to navigate from unconsciousness back to consciousness.

### **ICD Recommendation Attracts Attention**

[Examiner.com](#), [Scrubs Report](#), [Science Codex](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [Health News Digest](#) and the [Bakersfield Californian](#) June 24; and [International Business Times](#) (U.K.), [Yahoo! News](#) and [MedPage Today](#) June 25 reported on a committee recommendation to remove sexual orientation-related disorders from the International Classification of Disease. Susan D. Cochran, a professor of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, served on the committee.

### **A&E Airs Documentary about Campus Shooter**

Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson, an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry in the Semel Institute and director of The Help Group - UCLA Autism Research Alliance, was featured in a June 16 [A&E](#) documentary called Campus Killer: Santa Barbara, about Elliot Rodger, who was responsible for the deaths of six students, and was thought to have Asperger's Syndrome. Dr. Park Dietz, a clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was also interviewed. The documentary also aired June 17 on England's [Channel 4](#).

### **Operation Mend Changes Lives**

[KABC-Channel 7](#) featured a June 25 story of retired Air Force Staff Sgt. Brian Schiefer, who underwent shoulder surgery through the UCLA Operation Mend program to restore shoulder function after he suffered damage during training for his third deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan when the Humvee he was riding in flipped over. One of his surgeons, Dr. Sharon Hame, clinical professor of orthopaedic surgery and a member of the UCLA Operation Mend program, was interviewed. Operation Mend provides free medical services to military personnel injured in Iraq and Afghanistan.

### **Statins and Fat Study Garners More Interest**

[The Post and Courier](#) (Charleston, S.C.) and the U.S. Health & Human Services' [HHS HealthBeat](#) reported June 24 on a study co-authored by Dr. Martin Shapiro, chief of the division of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that people who take statins now are consuming more fat and calories, and weigh more, than statin users did 10 years prior—suggesting that people who take the cholesterol-lowering drug have a false sense of security about what they can eat. Shapiro was quoted in the HealthBeat story.

### **30 Most Technologically Advanced Hospitals in the World**

The June edition of [Top Masters in Healthcare Administration](#) featured 30 of the most technologically advanced hospitals in the world and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center ranked among them.

### **Walking Man of Murphys to Represent Operation Mend in 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade**

The [Stockton Record](#) reported June 23 that Vietnam War veteran Ric Ryan will walk in the Arnold (Calaveras County) 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. Starting in 2008, Ryan, who lives in Murphys, began collecting quarters from locals while on walks to support the UCLA Operation Mend program. He has since raised thousands of dollars for the program which provides reconstructive surgery and other medical services to military personnel wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan. Ryan will reach his 6,000<sup>th</sup> mile in the parade.

### **Spanish Press Highlights Breakthrough in Experimental Immunotherapy Drug**

[Dario de Ibiza](#) and [Rosario3.com](#) (all Spanish only) reported June 25 on treatment milestones made by researchers from UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center for patients with deadly skin and lung cancers who are being treated with an experimental drug called MK-3475 to unprecedented success. Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology and member of the center, was quoted.

### **Linking Stem Cell Regulation to Lung Cancer Development**

[Examiner.com](#) June 19, [News-Medical](#) June 20 and [Imperial Valley News](#) June 22 reported on a study from UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and the UCLA Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research in which scientists found a link between the way adult lung stem cells are regulated and the development of lung cancer. Dr. Brigitte Gomperts, associate professor of pediatric hematology-oncology and member of the cancer and stem cell centers, was quoted.

### **UCLA Scientists First to Directly Measure Regeneration of Heart Muscle Cells**

[MedicalXpress](#) June 25 touted a study by researchers from the UCLA Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research who are the first to directly measure the division of heart muscle cells, proving that while such division is very rare, it does occur. Dr. Reza Ardehali, associate professor of cardiology and member of the center, was quoted.

### **Local Newspaper Features UCLA Psychologist**

Dr. Lekeisha A. Sumner, assistant professor in the department of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was profiled June 15 in North Carolina's [Rocky Mount Telegram](#) (subscription required) highlighting her work as a psychologist in the areas of community service, teaching and psychotherapy.

### **Local Paper Covers ICON Award Event**

The Beverly Hills Courier June 26 covered the UCLA Center for Longevity's ICON Award event held June 5 that honored UCLA Chancellor Emeritus and Professor Albert Carnesale and his wife Robin Carnesale; singer, songwriter and composer Randy Newman; Lockton Insurance Brokers President and CEO Timothy Noonan, and film, stage and television actress Eva Marie Saint. Actor, comedian, author and musician Paul Reiser hosted the event and award-winning jazz guitarist Kenny Burrell performed. Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute is the center director and Louise Horvitz and Patricia Dunn Grey co-chaired the event.

### **Parkinson's Study Holds Traction**

[SciCasts](#) and [Web India](#) June 5, [Health Check](#) radio show (Fla.) June 9, the Chinese Daily News June 21 and KFI AM640 June 22 reported on a study by Dr. Ming Guo that discovered a new gene involved in Parkinson's disease. Guo is an associate professor of neurology and pharmacology.

### **Anonymous Peer Review Study Continues in Spotlight**

[HealthCanal](#) June 19, [Imperial Valley News](#) June 22 and [Health Data Management](#) June 26 reported on a study by Dr. Jim Hu that found that anonymous peer review through social networking helped residents improve their robotic surgery skills. Hu is UCLA's Henry E. Singleton Professor of Urology and director of robotic and minimally invasive surgery in the urology department at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

## **BRIEFS**

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was cited in a June 24 [New York Daily News](#) story about a woman who initiated a kidney transplant chain.

The pediatric heart transplant program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was cited June 13 in a Long Beach [Press-Telegram](#) story about a local father's special Father's Day celebration following his daughter's life-saving heart transplant at UCLA three years ago.

## **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 June 23 [HealthDay News](#) article regarding new guidelines for abdominal aortic aneurysm screening in older men who smoke.

Dr. Zaldy Tan, medical director of the Alzheimer's and Dementia Care program, was quoted in a June 24 [Reuters Health](#) article about a study finding that an enriched exercise program may improve mental functioning in older adults with mild cognitive decline,

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