



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of July 5-11, 2013**

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Spotlighting Operation Mend

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BRIEFS

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Rockin' Out after Brain Surgery

NBC's [Today Show](#), [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KCAL-Channel 9](#), [KTTV-Channel 11](#), dozens of NBC and Fox affiliates nationwide, the [New York Daily News](#), [Asian News International](#), the [Press Trust of India](#) reported July 10 on a musician who performed live for the first time since undergoing brain surgery to treat benign essential tremor three months earlier. Brad Carter was Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center's 500th patient to undergo deep brain stimulation, which implants a pacemaker in the brain to correct faulty signals making his hands shake. His surgeon, Dr. Nader Pouratian, assistant professor of neurosurgery, was interviewed.

UCLA Health System Among 'Most Wired' in U.S.

The current issue of [Hospitals and Health Networks](#) magazine highlights the UCLA Health System as one of the "most wired" hospital systems in the U.S. for its forward-thinking implementation and use of information technology in its health care delivery. [United Press International](#) ran a story July 10 and the release was picked up by over 200 websites. [e! Science News](#) carried the UPI story. Virginia McFerran, chief information officer for the UCLA Health System, was quoted.

UCLA Lets the Dogs Out

The syndicated "[Dr. Oz Show](#)" reported July 9 on UCLA's People-Animal Connection, an animal-assisted therapy program for patients at UCLA medical facilities. Erin Rice, director of the program at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, and Dr. Mark Morocco, professor of medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and associate residency director of emergency medicine at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, were featured.

Docs Remove Man's Heart, Give Him Artificial One

CBS's "[The Doctors](#)" reported July 8 on an October 2012 surgery at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in which doctors removed a patient's diseased heart and replaced it with a total artificial heart powered by a backpack-sized device. Dr. Ali Nsair, assistant professor of cardiology, and Dr. Murray Kwon, assistant professor of cardiothoracic surgery, were interviewed.

Los Angeles Times Features Rape Treatment Center's Innovative Facility for Children

The [Los Angeles Times](#) July 9 published a front-page feature story on Stuart House, an adjunct facility to the Rape Treatment Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica that provides a unique, collaborative approach to treating sexually abused children. Gail Abarbanel, founding director of the center, was quoted and legal counsel Beth Cranston was referenced.

Stem Cell Gene Therapy for Sickle Cell Disease Continues to Garner Wide Coverage

[Stem Cell Patient](#), [BioTech Bits](#), [Zimbio](#), [Nedrept](#), [Genetherapy.bz](#), [Rediff](#), [Medindia](#) July 3; [IRMI](#) July 4; the [Journal of Blacks in Higher Education](#), [Cell Therapy News](#), [MoneyNetworkers](#) July 5; [Oxbridge](#)

[Biotech Review](#) July 6; [Civic Duty](#) July 9; and [Croydon Sickle Cell & Thalassaemia Support Group](#) July 11 reported on a breakthrough study from UCLA's Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research demonstrating a stem cell gene therapy for sickle cell disease that is ready to begin clinical trials early in 2014. The study's leader, Dr. Donald Kohn, professor of pediatrics and microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics in the life sciences, was quoted in the coverage.

Lifestyle Recommendations Reduce Risk of Aggressive Prostate Tumors

[Alltop](#), [Netkafa](#), [Natural News](#), [Zee News](#), [Viet Xuan](#), [Medindia](#), [Food Exposed](#), [N4sa.com](#), [nePakistan](#), [Nursing-Resource.com](#), [Business Standard](#), [South Asia Mail](#), [Breaking News](#), [Cancer Cure Asia](#) July 5; [Urology Times](#) July 8, [Lifestyle Medicine](#), [Natural Cure Cures](#), [Know Cancer](#), and [Healthy Prostate](#) July 10; and [The Prostate Decision](#) and [Paddle for a Cause](#) July 11 featured a study from UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center (JCCC) that found adherence to lifestyle guidelines from the World Cancer Research Fund reduced the risk of more aggressive tumors in prostate cancer patients. Lenore Arab, JCCC member and professor in the departments of medicine and biological chemistry, led the study and was quoted in the coverage.

Nursing Dean Addresses Solutions for Improving Nurse-Doctor Communication

The July 5 edition of [Hospital Impact](#) featured a column by Courtney Lyder, dean of the UCLA School of Nursing, about efforts to improve communication between physicians and nurses and a UCLA program that integrates students at the School of Nursing and the David Geffen School of Medicine.

Growth, Not Just Size, Matters with Aneurysms

[MedPage Today](#) reported July 8 on a study by Dr. Pablo Villablanca, chief of diagnostic neuroradiology, showing that a brain aneurysm's growth rate, not just its size, predicts its likelihood of rupture. Villablanca was quoted.

Airport Scanners Don't Pose High Risk

A study by Christopher Cagnon, professor of radiological sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and chief of radiology physics at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, finding that full-body scanners at airports emit far less radiation than was assumed was highlighted July 7 by India's [News Times](#) and July 6 by [Asian News International](#) and the [Business Standard](#). Cagnon was quoted.

Media Probe Dietary Supplements Study

The [San Fernando Valley Sun](#), [Medical News Today](#), [MediLexicon](#), and [Sharjah Clinics Directory](#) July 4 spotlighted research led by Dr. Derjung Tarn, associate professor of family medicine, finding that primary care physicians overall do a poor job of communicating information about dietary supplements to their patients.

Nutrition Program Helps Kids with HIV

[Healio](#) reported July 8 on research led by Dr. Karin Nielsen-Saines, clinical professor of pediatrics in the division of infectious diseases and a member of the UCLA AIDS Institute, showing that children in Africa with HIV who participated in a nutritional supplementation program lowered their viral loads and had significantly better outcomes.

UCLA Hospitals' Newborn Screenings

[KCBS-Channel 2](#) reported July 5 on the UCLA Health System's longtime use of pulse oximetry screening, a previously non-mandatory and now mandatory newborn test that checks for a condition known as critical congenital heart disease.

Medical Daily Explores International Medical Graduate Program

[Medical Daily](#) reported July 10 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 featured.

Media Cover Study on Vitamin D and Heart Disease

[HealthDay News](#), [MedPage Today](#), [RedOrbit.com](#), and [Drugs.com](#) July 9, and [Cardiology Today](#) and [Health24](#) July 10 reported on a study in JAMA about heart disease and Vitamin D from the University of Washington and an accompanying editorial by Dr. Keith Norris, associate professor of medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Norris was quoted in the coverage and featured in a video on MedPage Today. The HealthDay News story was picked up by [WebMD](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), [MSN](#), [Doctors Lounge](#), [The HealthCast](#), [Philly.com](#), [MedBroadcast](#), [HealthFinder.gov](#), and [Health.com](#).

Healthcare Channel Features Heart Failure Expert

[Healthcare Channel](#) reported July 8 on a new medication currently under review by the FDA that could prove to be one of the first drugs to improve survival for acute heart failure. Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was interviewed in-studio.

'Super' Tomatoes Lower Heart Disease Risk

[Chennai Online](#) reported July 10 on research showing that mice that consumed tomatoes genetically engineered to act like "good" cholesterol had significant reductions of plaque build-up in their arteries. Senior author Dr. Alan Fogelman, executive chair of medicine and director of the atherosclerosis research unit, was quoted.

KCRW Reports on Prisoner's Hunger Strike

Dr. Curly Bonds, clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a July 10 interview on the KCRW-89.9 FM show "Which Way L.A.?" about the hunger strike taking place in California's prisons. Bonds discussed the psychological effects of solitary confinement.

Media Highlights Teens and Impulsive Behavior

Dara G. Ghahremani, an assistant researcher in the Semel Institute, was featured July 9 in the [Examiner.com](#); July 10 by [Psychcentral.com](#); and July 11 by [News-Medical.net](#) regarding his study finding that a workshop for teens that uses yoga-based breathing, meditation and mindfulness can help teens relieve stress, regulate their emotions, resolve conflicts, and control impulsive behavior.

KPCC Discusses the Fear of Flying

Emanuel Maidenberg, associate clinical professor of psychiatry and director of the Cognitive Behavior Therapy Clinic at the Semel Institute, was interviewed July 9 on KPCC-89.3 FM's "AirTalk" about people's fear of airplane flight and how they can effectively manage their anxiety.

Canadian Radio Station Comforts Train Wreck Survivors

Catherine Mogil, director of the child and family trauma psychiatry service at the Semel Institute, was interviewed July 8 on CJAD 600AM (Canada) on how best to counsel survivors in the town of Lac-Mégantic, Canada, that a runaway train crashed into.

Media Points to Clues about the Cause of Narcolepsy

Jerome Siegel, professor of psychiatry and director of the Center for Sleep Research at the Semel Institute, was featured July 3 by [Medical Daily](#), [Science Daily](#), [HealthCanal.com](#), and [Science Codex](#); July 4 by [NPR](#) and [News-Medical.net](#); and July 8 by [Asian News International](#) regarding his research showing that human narcoleptics have nearly 65 percent more histamine-containing brain cells than individuals without the disorder.

Stockton Newspaper Notes Struggles of Seniors

The July 9 [Stockton Record](#) reported on a study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the Fielding School of Public Health showing that grandparents raising grandkids in California may be among

the most vulnerable residents in the state, due to the high cost of living and low levels of public assistance.

Neurosurgeon Honored for Epilepsy Work

[Phys.Org](#) July 5 and [News-Medical.net](#) July 4 reported that Dr. Gary Mathern, professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of the UCLA Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery Program, has been honored by the International Bureau for Epilepsy and the International League Against Epilepsy for his contributions to epilepsy research and treatment in children.

Surgery to Remove Half of Boy's Brain

[The Register-Guard](#) (Eugene, Ore.) reported July 7 on a young boy who will soon undergo a cerebral hemispherectomy — the removal of half the brain — at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA to treat his chronic seizures. The boy's surgeon, Dr. Gary Mathern, professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of the UCLA Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery Program, was quoted.

Santa Monica Paper Features Hospital's Tips to Avoid Summer Weight Gain

The July 4 [Santa Monica Mirror](#) ran an article with tips from UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica on how to help children avoid weight gain during the summer. Dr. Dennis Woo, former chief of pediatrics at the hospital and an associate clinical professor, was quoted throughout the story.

Spotlighting Operation Mend

On July 6, KTKK 630AM (Salt Lake City) interviewed Richard Azar, director of the UCLA Operation Mend program, to discuss how the program provides free reconstructive surgery and other medical services to injured military personnel wounded in the Iraq or Afghanistan wars.

Men's Health Rates Jonsson Cancer Center Among the Best Cancer Hospitals

[Men's Health](#) July 9 included UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center in a feature listing the best cancer hospitals in the U.S.

BRIEFS

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was cited July 5 in an [Examiner.com](#) article about the average survival rate for lung transplant recipients. The story profiled a Seattle man who is thriving 20 years after his double lung transplant.

The [Visalia Times-Delta](#) July 9 profiled a local woman with congenital heart disease who is awaiting a life-saving heart transplant at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Alon Avidan, professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Center, was quoted in the July 8 [Daily Mail](#) (U.K.) about why couples who have a poor night's sleep are more likely to argue.

Dr. Yvonne Bryson, chief of pediatric infectious diseases at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and a member of the UCLA AIDS Institute, was quoted in a June 26 [Nature](#) article about a clinical trial testing whether aggressively treating babies born of HIV-positive mothers with anti-retroviral drugs within hours of birth can expunge the virus that causes AIDS. Bryson is co-chair of the trial.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented July 9 in [Yahoo! News](#) regarding viral cardiomyopathy for a story about singer Randy Travis.

Dr. Richard Jackson, professor and chair of environmental health sciences at the Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a July 8 [Contra Costa Times](#) column about global warming.

Dr. Beate Ritz, professor of epidemiology and environmental health sciences at the Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a July 2 [Reuters](#) article about research examining whether warm weather is linked to birth defects of the heart.

Dylan Roby, director of the health economics and evaluation research program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a July 6 [Bakersfield Californian](#) article about the challenges of implementing the Affordable Care Act in California.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, was quoted July 8 in an [Associated Press](#) article about the benefits of cognitive exercises for seniors. The story also ran in [Green Valley News and Sun](#) (Ariz).

Diana Winston, director of mindfulness education at the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center, commented July 4 in a [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) article on music as a form of mindful meditation.

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