



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of July 6-12, 2012**

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BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

Obesity's Role in Heart Failure Attracts Coverage

The [Los Angeles Times](#), [HealthDay](#), [United Press International](#), [Medical News Today](#), [Doctors Lounge](#), [Nurse.com](#) and [Pakistan One](#) reported July 5; the [Irish Sun](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#) and [Business Standard](#) reported July 6; [Times of India](#) and [Daily News & Analysis](#) reported July 4; [FOX News](#) and [Press Trust of India](#) reported July 8 and [Medpage Today](#) reported July 9 on a study linking obesity and a larger waist size to better outcomes in heart-failure patients. Dr. Tamara Horwich, assistant professor of medicine, division of cardiology, and medical resident Adrienne Clark were quoted. The HealthDay report appeared on [Yahoo News](#) and [Medline](#).

Local TV Spotlights Migraine Awareness Month

Dr. Andrew Charles was interviewed July 3 by [KNBC-Channel 4](#) and July 5 by [KCAL-Channel 9](#) about the symptoms and latest treatments for migraine, and why they affect one out of four women. One of his patients also was interviewed by Channel 9. Charles holds the Meyer and Renee Luskin Chair in Migraine and Headache Studies, directs UCLA's Headache Research and Treatment Program and is a professor of neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. (Click on link for KCAL story): <http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=156392&key=Ax1i8vtUxNJ1wBskBAtdtFYs2JLZ1o0s&email=ESchmidt@mednet.ucla.edu>

Media Report that Nearly 4 Million Californians Face Hunger

Gail Harrison, a professor in the department of community health sciences at the Fielding School of Public Health, was featured in coverage of a study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research showing that an estimated 3.8 million California adults could not provide adequate food for themselves or their families during the recent recession. Coverage included July 9 stories by the [Los Angeles Times](#), [City News Service](#), [Counsel, a Heal](#) blog and the [Inland Valley Daily Bulletin](#); and July 10 articles by the [Stockton Record](#), [California Healthline](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [KABC-790 AM](#), California's [Union Democrat](#), the [OC Weekly](#) and [NPR](#).

KPCC, Online Outlets Examine Hospital-Acquired Infections

[Infection Control Today](#), [USA Today Topics](#), [Becker's Clinical Quality Control](#), [Examiner](#), [Health Canal](#), [Medical Express](#), [Science Business](#), and [Bio-Medicine](#) reported July 9; [KPCC 89.3FM](#) and [News-Medical](#) reported July 10; and [California Healthline](#) reported July 12 on a \$2.5 million federal grant to Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center for a study examining whether copper surfaces help reduce hospital-acquired infections. Dr. Daniel Uslan, director of the antimicrobial stewardship program and an assistant clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine; and Dr. Peter Sinsheimer, executive director of the UCLA Sustainable Technology and Policy Program, a joint initiative of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and the UCLA School of Law; were quoted in the coverage.

Computers as 'Electronic Cocaine'

Dr. Peter Whybrow, director of the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, and Gary Small, the Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and director of the Longevity Center at the Semel Institute, were featured in July 9 reports by [KTLA-Channel 5](#) and the [Daily Beast](#) about how people's addiction to technology can lead to stress and depression.

Double Amputee to Run in Olympics

A July 5 [Los Angeles Times](#) column about runner Oscar Pistorius, a double amputee from South Africa who will be competing in the London Olympics using carbon-fiber prosthetics, featured the expert

commentary of V. Reggie Edgerton, distinguished professor of neurobiology and of integrative biology and physiology.

Patients Unlikely to Contradict Doctors

[Reuters](#) reported July 12 on a study led by Dominick Frosch, associate adjunct professor of general internal medicine and health services research, showing that only one in seven patients will speak up if they disagree with a treatment plan from their doctors. Frosch was quoted.

Stroke Victims Get Better Care When EMTs Call Ahead

[United Press International](#), [Medicine Plus](#) and [MedPage Today](#) reported July 10 on research by Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, showing that stroke patients get better and faster treatment when paramedics call ahead to notify a hospital they are en route. Fonarow was quoted.

Local Papers Feature Columns on Fleas, Dysentery

The [Daily News](#), [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#) and [Pasadena Star-News](#) ran a July 9 column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine, division of infectious diseases, on diseases carried by fleas from pets. A July 12 column about dysentery that quoted Dr. Glenn Mathisen, clinical professor of medicine at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, also ran in the [Daily News](#), [Pasadena Star-News](#) and [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#).

Channel 7 Offers Tips to Beat the Heat

Dr. Mark Morocco, associate clinical professor of medicine, division of emergency medicine, was interviewed July 10 on [KABC-Channel 7](#) and quoted July 11 in an [online](#) report about how to avoid heat-related illnesses during hot summer days.

S.F. Chronicle Cites Nanoparticle Research

The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) on July 6 and [Food Consumer](#) on July 12 cited a study that showed that titanium dioxide nanoparticles induced DNA breaks and produced chromosomal damage and inflammation, all of which increase the risk of cancer. Robert Schiestl, a professor of pathology, radiation oncology and environmental health sciences and a Jonsson Cancer Center scientist, led the study.

Daily Breeze Highlights Fundraiser

The [Daily Breeze](#) reported June 27 on a Manhattan Beach man running 100 miles to raise money for UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center in honor of his sister, who died of brain cancer.

'Zoobiquity' Benefits People and Animals

The July 9 [Boston Globe](#) reported on "Zoobiquity," a book by Dr. Barbara Natterson-Horowitz, clinical professor of medicine in the division of cardiology and director of imaging at the UCLA Cardiac Arrhythmia Center, examining the species-spanning nature of some physical and mental illnesses.

KFWB Explores Sleep Deprivation, Stress

Dr. Michael Irwin, director of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology at the Semel Institute, was featured in a July 6 KFWB 980AM interview about sleep deprivation and stress.

Men More Likely to Have Arthritis Remission

[Arthritis Today](#) reported July 6 on research by Dr. Daniel Furst, professor of medicine in the division of rheumatology, showing that men are more likely than women to sustain remission of rheumatoid arthritis during the first two years of their disease. Furst was quoted.

Website Highlights New Discovery for Muscle Disorders

Carmen Bertoni, an assistant professor of neurology, was featured in a July 9 [News Medical](#) article about her study that identified a compound that could help counteract the mutations that cause Duchenne muscular dystrophy and other genetic muscle disorders.

Nursing Trade Notes Landmark Heart Transplant Surgery

[Advance for Nurses](#) reported July 10 that UCLA's heart transplant program became the second facility in the world to perform its 2,000th heart transplant surgery. Dr. Abbas Ardehali, program director, and Dr. Mario Deng, medical director of the integrated advanced heart-failure, mechanical support and heart transplant program, were quoted.

Examiner Highlights Alzheimer's Research

Arthur Toga, professor of neurology and director of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging (LONI) at the Semel Institute, was featured July 2 in [Examiner.com](#) about LONI's initiative to collect, store and disseminate the 165 terabytes of genome sequencing of more than 800 people enrolled in the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative.

Local Outlet Covers Vet's Fundraising Efforts

[The Pine Tree.net](#) reported July 7 on a retired Vietnam veteran from Calaveras County who's raised money for UCLA's Operation Mend program by collecting donations and saving a quarter each time someone waves at him while he goes for walk. His contributions have exceeded \$10,000.

Examiner Profiles Double-Lung Transplant

The [Examiner](#) ran a July 5 article on a woman with cystic fibrosis whose life was saved by a double-lung transplant. Her medical team used a new ambulatory oxygenation approach that allowed her to walk, gaining strength and muscle mass prior to surgery. The story quoted Dr. David Ross, professor of pulmonology and director of the UCLA Lung Transplant program, and cited her surgeon, Dr. Abbas Ardehali, professor of cardiothoracic surgery and director of the lung transplant program.

Heart Walk Debuts in Los Angeles

[Examiner](#) reported July 10 on the first annual Congenital Heart Walk Los Angeles, which will be held in Burbank on July 15. The event is co-sponsored by the Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center and co-chaired by Dr. Piper Calasanti, pediatric hospitalist at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA.

Testing the Toxicity of Nanomaterials

[Nanowerk](#) reported July 9 on the development by Dr. Andre Nel, professor of medicine, pediatrics and public health and chief of nanomedicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and colleagues of a screening technology that allows large batches of nanomaterials to be assessed for toxicity, based on their ability to trigger certain biological responses in cells. Nel was quoted.

Regulating the Fate of Bone Marrow Stem Cells

[Dr. Bicuspid](#), [Medical Xpress](#) and [Science Daily](#) reported July 9 on the discovery by Dr. Cun-Yu Wang, the No-Hee Park Endowed Professor of Dentistry and chair of oral biology at the UCLA School of Dentistry, of two gene-activating enzymes that play a key role in determining whether bone-marrow stem cells become bone cells or fat cells. Wang was quoted in the coverage.

BRIEFS

UCLA was mentioned in a July 9 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about the purchase of a Calabasas office building to be an outpost of its medical program.

In a July 11 [Becker's Hospital Review](#) report, Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was listed as one of the top 25 public hospitals listed by gross revenue in the U.S., according to CMS cost report data analyzed by American Hospital Directory.

The Beverly Hills Courier noted July 6 that researchers at the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition are conducting a study to evaluate a palm-oil supplement's effect on cholesterol levels.

Dr. Michael Green, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was cited in a July 11 [Los Angeles Times](#) article as an advisor to actor Eric McCormick who plays a schizophrenic on TV.

A study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the Fielding School of Public Health was highlighted in a July 9 [Modesto Bee](#) article about a recent dip in the diabetes rate in Stanislaus County schools. The Center tracks California childhood obesity rates on a county-by-county basis.

The July 12 Palisadian Post published a photo of Patti Davis, founding leader of the Beyond Alzheimer's support groups in Westwood and Santa Monica, who represented UCLA Health System by riding in the July 4 parade in Pacific Palisades.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Alon Avidan, professor of neurology and director of UCLA's Sleep Disorders Center, was quoted July 8 in a [Chicago Tribune](#) article about how exposure to screen lights from smart-phones, tablets and e-readers can disrupt sleep and exacerbate sleep disorders.

Dr. Charles Flippen, professor of neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented July 10 in an [ABC News.com](#) story about treatment options for patients after Excedrin Migraine was recalled by its manufacturer.

Dr. Charles Grob, professor of clinical psychiatry, was quoted in a July 9 [Bloomberg](#) article about research finding that small doses of the hallucinogen ketamine may help reduce depression symptoms.

Dr. Wayne Grody, professor of pathology, human genetics and pediatrics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented July 5 in an [LA Weekly](#) story about two brothers afflicted with a rare genetic muscular disorder.

David Hovda, professor of neurosurgery and director of the Brain Injury Research Center, was quoted in a July 12 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about the death of former football player Junior Seau and the relationship between repeated brain concussions and depression.

Dr. Shana Alex Lavarreda, director of health insurance studies and research scientist at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted July 11 in a [Los Angeles Daily News](#) story about a 17-year-old girl who died when her insurance company declined to pay for her liver transplant.

Dr. Sheba Meymandi, clinical professor of cardiology, was quoted July 8 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about a chronic parasitic infection known Chagas disease, which can damage the heart.

Dr. Bennett Roth, clinical professor of medicine, division of digestive diseases, and medical director for the UCLA Center for Esophageal Disorders, commented in July's Family Circle about alleviating heartburn.

Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric otolaryngology and associate professor of head and neck surgery, was quoted July 9 in [ABC News.com](#) and July 10 in [Asian News International](#) about research showing that infants who live with dogs or cats in the first year of life tend to have a lower risk of colds.

Dr. Kirsten Tillisch, assistant clinical professor of medicine, division of digestive diseases and a researcher with the UCLA Oppenheimer Center for Neurobiology of Stress, was interviewed July 9 on NPR's "[Morning Edition](#)" about health claims made for probiotic yogurt.

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