



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of July 17-23, 2015**

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New Study Aims to Shed Light on Concussions

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Rare Genetic Mutations Occur More Often in Schizophrenia Patients

Don't Forget to Watch '2 Weeks to a Younger Brain'

Diabetes Drugs Could Block Glucose Delivery to Deadly Cancer Cells

UCLA Fielding School Professor to Deliver Opening Lecture at International Academy of Cardiology Meeting

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UCLA Health Rises to No. 3 in the Nation

Los Angeles [Daily News](#), [Westside Today](#); [LA Canyon News](#); [Santa Monica Mirror](#); [California Healthline](#); [Los Angeles Business Journal](#); [News-Medical.net](#); [Boston Globe](#); [CBS News.com](#); [Fox News.com](#); [KCBS.com](#); [KNBC-Channel 4](#); [KABC-Channel 7](#); [KCAL-Channel 9](#); [KPCC 89.3FM](#); [KABC 790AM](#) and others reported July 21 that UCLA Health's hospitals in Westwood and Santa Monica were ranked No. 3 in the U.S. News & World Report's 2015-2016 Best Hospitals Honor Roll. The Honor Roll highlights 15 hospitals out of nearly 5,000 nationwide for their expertise in treating the most challenging patients in at least six medical specialties. Dr. James Atkinson, the interim associate vice chancellor and president of UCLA Hospital System, and Dr. John Mazziotta, vice chancellor of UCLA Health Sciences and dean of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, were cited in the coverage.

UCLA Cyber Attack Garners Widespread Coverage

The [Los Angeles Times](#), Los Angeles [Daily News](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [USA Today](#), [Reuters](#), [Associated Press](#), [Modern Healthcare](#), [Law360](#), [Network World](#), [Dow Jones Business News](#), [KTLA-Channel 5](#), [KCAL-Channel 9](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [KNX 1070AM](#), [KPCC 89.3FM](#) and other media outlets reported July 17 on a cyber attack that could impact up to 4.5 million individuals. Dr. James Atkinson, interim president of the UCLA Hospital System, was quoted. The AP story also appeared in dozens of outlets nationwide, including the [New York Times](#).

Operation Mend Helps Fight the Mental Wounds of War

La Opinion featured July 20 a multi-part story (part [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)) on patients from the UCLA Operation Mend program who suffered post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of injuries sustained while fighting in Afghanistan. Both vets have received care through the UCLA program which provides free medical and mental health services. The article also reported the Operation Mend program received a grant from the Wounded Warrior Project to expand its mental health services for post-9-11 wounded service members. The funding will support a new intensive program at UCLA to help treat mild traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder. Dr. Jo Sornborger, director of psychological health programs for Operation Mend, was interviewed.

Gang Member Turned Doctor Hopes to Inspire Others

[La Opinion](#) published July 16 a story on James Maciel, who escaped gang life and overcame poverty, a criminal record and teen fatherhood in his quest to become a doctor. Maciel graduated from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA in June and is pursuing a surgical residency at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, where he hopes to inspire other young people to extricate themselves from gangs and achieve their dreams.

UCLA Tests New Scope-Cleaning Machine

The [Los Angeles Times](#) reported July 22 that Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center officials are testing a new scope-cleaning machine from a Tucson, Ariz.-based company as an extra step to what the hospital is doing to disinfect duodenoscopes linked to an outbreak of an antibiotic-resistant infection. Dr. Raman Muthusamy, director of endoscopy, was quoted.

Alzheimer's Disease Research Highlighted

A column in the [San Bernardino Sun](#) and a story in [Highland Community News](#) on July 21 featured the Alzheimer's disease research of Dr. Dale Bredesen, the Augustus Rose Professor of Neurology and director of Neurodegenerative Disease Research at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

Online Calorie Calculators

Dr. Zhaoping Li, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, was featured July 21 in a [Huffington Post](#) article about the Body Weight Planner, a new online calorie calculator from the National Institutes of Health.

Sports Medicine Doctor Discusses Steam Room Safety

Dr. Daniel Vigil, health sciences associate clinical professor of family medicine, was featured July 20 in a [Shape.com](#) story about how to protect oneself from becoming dangerously dehydrated in a steam room.

Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Guidelines and Patient Outcomes

[MedPage Today](#) and [MedicalResearch.com](#) reported July 23 on research led by Dr. Aaron Dawes, a general surgery resident at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar, finding that hospitals' compliance with Brain Trauma Foundation guidelines for treating traumatic brain injuries does not necessarily translate into better patient outcomes. Dawes was quoted.

Honoring Organ, Eye and Tissue Donors

The [Westwood-Century City Patch](#) posted July 23 a story on a ceremony with UCLA Health and One Legacy, an organ procurement organization, to honor special donors who became organ, eye and tissue donors at the time of their deaths at Reagan UCLA Medical Center or at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. The Gift of Life Fountain, located at Reagan UCLA Medical Center's Garden of Peace, was dedicated and special engraved medallions honoring past donors were tossed into the water during the ceremony. Donor names will also be added to an online donor recognition webpage. Dr. Paul Vespa, director of neurocritical care at Reagan UCLA Medical Center and a professor of neurosurgery and neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; Rev. Karen Schnell, director of spiritual care at UCLA Health; and Barbara Anderson, unit director of the Neuroscience/Trauma Intensive Care Unit at UCLA, were quoted.

Program Helps Students Pass State Fitness Tests

[MedicalXpress](#) reported July 21 on a recent UCLA study that found that the UCLA Health Sound Body Sound Mind program tripled the percentage of students who passed the state fitness test from an average passage rate of 20 percent prior to the curriculum's initiation to an average passage rate of 60 percent after its completion. The study also found that students' confidence levels, enjoyment of physical activity and knowledge about fitness increased following the program. Sound Body Sound Mind is an innovative physical education program that brings commercial-grade fitness equipment to under-resourced schools, along with a curriculum based on boosting confidence and making participation more enjoyable. The study's author, Dr. Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris, a professor of urban planning and associate dean in the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, and Nathan Nambiar, executive director of the Sound Body Sound Mind Foundation and community engagement manager at UCLA Health, were quoted.

East-West Medicine Symposium Features on Chinese Language News

[KSCI LA 18](#), a Chinese language television station, aired July 22 a story on an East-West medicine symposium at UCLA. Dr. Justin Laube, a fellow in the UCLA Center for East-West Medicine, and Dr. Ka-Kit Hui, the Wallis Annenberg Professor in Integrative East-West Medicine and founder and director of the UCLA Center for East-West Medicine, were quoted.

KNBC Aired Update on Former Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center Patient

[KNBC-Channel 4](#) aired July 20 an update on a former Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center patient who was in a coma following a collision with a fire truck on Pacific Coast Highway and hospitalized for nearly a month.

New Study Aims to Shed Light on Concussions

[IFL Magazine](#), Italy's online publication about American football, ran a July 20 Q&A with Dr. Christopher Giza, director of the UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program and a professor of pediatrics and neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, about the university's role in a landmark \$30 million initiative funded by the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the U.S. Department of Defense to collect "big data" on concussions. Giza and his colleagues aim to collect new clues about the biological and genetic risk factors for sports-related head injuries.

Checklist Helps Identify Children, Teens with Bereavement Disorder

A new UCLA-University of Texas diagnostic tool developed by Dr. Christopher Layne, a psychologist and researcher at the Semel Institute, and Dr. Robert Pynoos, a UCLA professor in residence of psychiatry, received attention July 22 in [HealthCanal](#) and [Medical Xpress](#).

Rare Genetic Mutations Occur More Often in Schizophrenia Patients

New research into the genetic architecture of schizophrenia by Dr. Roel Ophoff, a principal investigator at the Center for Neurobehavioral Genetics, and Dr. Loes Olde Loohuis, a post-doc at the center, was reported July 21 by the Italian news organization [Pazienti](#).

Don't Forget to Watch '2 Weeks to a Younger Brain'

A video on anti-aging tips scheduled to air July 26 with Dr. Gary Small, director of the UCLA Longevity Center at the Semel Institute, received advance attention July 23 on [Newsmax.com](#).

Diabetes Drugs Could Block Glucose Delivery to Deadly Cancer Cells

[News-Medical.net](#), [Scicasts](#) and [redOrbit](#) reported July 21 on a new study showing promising evidence that SGLT inhibitor drugs, such as those commonly used to treat diabetes, could potentially be used to block glucose uptake and reduce tumor growth in these cancers. These findings offer new hope in the fight against pancreatic and prostate cancers. Dr. Ernest Wright, professor of physiology, and Dr. Jorge Barrio, Distinguished Professor of Molecular and Medical Pharmacology, were quoted. Both are members of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

UCLA Fielding School Professor to Deliver Opening Lecture at International Academy of Cardiology Meeting

Dr. Nathan D. Wong, adjunct professor of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of the Heart Disease Prevention Program, was featured July 20 in a [PR Web](#) announcement about his upcoming opening lecture at the International Academy of Cardiology, Annual Scientific Sessions 2015, 20th World Congress on Heart Disease.

BRIEFS

UCLA's participation in a major \$30 million study of autism spectrum disorder was mentioned July 20 in [MedicalXpress](#), July 21 in [Disability Scoop](#) and July 23 in [News-Medical.net](#). Researchers in the Semel Institute and UCLA Fielding School of Public Health will participate in the project that involves four universities nationwide.

The California Health Interview Survey conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research was cited July 20 in an article in [The Guardian](#) about quality of life in Santa Monica compared to other cities. It was also cited July 20 in a [California Healthline](#) article about children's healthcare in California.

The UCLA Fielding School of Public Health was cited July 22 among several research institutions that contributed to developments in analyzing autoimmune pancreatitis in an article from [Diagnostic Imaging](#).

QUOTABLES

Dr. Anthony Butch, director of the UCLA Olympic Analytical Laboratory and a professor of pathology and laboratory medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted July 17 in a [Winnipeg Sun](#) sports column about the Canadian Football League's drug-testing policy.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented July 21 in a [HealthDay News](#) story that also ran in [U.S. News & World Report](#) on a study suggesting that more lives could be saved if bystanders perform CPR right away on people who are in cardiac arrest. He also was quoted July 22 in a [HealthDay](#) story that also appeared July 23 in [MedicalXpress](#) about a study finding that minimally invasive surgery to repair abdominal aortic aneurysms appears to boost survival in the short term more than traditional surgery.

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 quoted July 17 in an [Oncology Times](#) article about improving the interpretation of mammograms.

Dr. Dimitrios Iliopoulos, associate professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases and a member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Gene Regulation Program, was quoted July 22 on [Forbes.com](#) about a new report on prescribing antibiotics for a common bacteria, reducing the occurrence of gastric cancer.

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 quoted July 17 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about out-of-insurance-network healthcare costs. He was also quoted July 17 in a [San Francisco Chronicle](#) article about the availability of doctors through Medi-Cal.

Dr. Katherine L. Narr, an associate professor of neurology and a researcher at the UCLA Ahmanson-Lovelace Brain Imaging Center, commented July 23 in a [Psychology Today](#) article on social anxiety and brain signaling.

Dr. Amy Stoddard, obstetrician-gynecologist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and assistant clinical professor, commented July 17 about tampon safety in a [Today Show](#) report about a young woman speaking out about the dangers of toxic-shock syndrome.

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