



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT For the week of Aug. 7 -13, 2009

Note: Website links may expire without notice. Some sites require password registration. If you cannot access a story or would like to obtain a copy, please call 310.794.0777.

Univision Showcases Healthy Foods for the Brain

CNN Spotlights Heart Transplant Recipient's Ironman Training

FOX Sports Recaps NBA Player's Visit with Pediatric Patients

KPCC Examines Pills for Sleep

Trade Explores Cancer Patients' Desire to Know Prognosis

Local Paper Offers Tips for Avoiding Swine Flu at School

Newswire Explores Cognitive Decline in the Elderly

Hindustan Times Reports on New Target for Alzheimer's Treatment

Industry Trade Looks into Furlough Issues

QUOTABLES

Univision Showcases Healthy Foods for the Brain

Univision aired an Aug. 6 segment featuring Fernando Gomez-Pinilla, professor of neurosurgery and physiological sciences, and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center Executive Chef Gabriel Gomez in cooking demonstrations highlighting recipes made with foods that are good for the brain. Gomez-Pinilla's research has shown how dietary changes enhance cognitive abilities, protect the brain from damage and counteract the effects of aging.

"Healthy Brain Foods"

<http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=111883&key=XEY1nrwaOjvfEzziopy9onauWuA3IKDW&email=rchampeau@mednet.ucla.edu>

"Healthy Brain Foods 2"

<http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=111884&key=DqnAe56faxHgWbJzweJshqF4iFSnDhg1&email=rchampeau@mednet.ucla.edu>

CNN Spotlights Heart Transplant Recipient's Ironman Training

CNN.com reported Aug. 13 on a 37-year-old UCLA heart transplant recipient who is training to compete in the Kona Ironman competition in October. Dr. Jon Kobashigawa, medical director of the UCLA Heart Transplant program, was quoted.

"Heart Transplant Patients Push Physical Limits at Ironman"

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/HEALTH/08/13/heart.transplants.ironman/#cnnSTCText>

FOX Sports Recaps NBA Player's Visit with Pediatric Patients

Fox Sports aired an Aug. 11 video on Laker Jordan Farmar's visit to Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA that highlighted a reunion party with patients who participated in his "Making Dreams Come True" foundation. Amy Bullock, director of Child Life/Child Development Services at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, and Hilary Gan, Child Life Specialist, were interviewed.

"Jordan Farmar"

<http://video.msn.com/?mkt=en-us&brand=foxsports&vid=94838dd9-0238-4f9f-84ae-662487314c8a&tab=s189>

KPCC Examines Pills for Sleep

Dr. Alon Avidan, associate professor of neurology and associate director of the sleep disorder clinic, appeared Aug. 12 on KPCC 89.3 FM's Patt Morrison show. He discussed the increasing number of Americans turning to sleeping pills to get a night's rest.

"Why is it So Hard to Get a Good Night's Sleep?"

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/patt-morrison/2009/08/11/why-is-it-so-hard-to-get-a-good-nights-sleep/>

Trade Explores Cancer Patients' Desire to Know Prognosis

Oncology Nursing News reported Aug. 11 on research by Dr. Tara McCannel, director of the Ophthalmic Oncology Center at UCLA's Jules Stein Eye Institute and a Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center researcher, finding that eye cancer patients want genetic testing that predicts their metastasis risk, regardless of whether therapies exist to treat their disease. The study was published in the June issue of the Journal of Genetic Counseling.

"Good or Bad, These Patients Want to Know"

<http://www.oncologynursingnews.com/Good-or-Bad-These-Patients-Want-to-Know/article/140802/>

Local Paper Offers Tips for Avoiding Swine Flu at School

Westside Today published an Aug. 7 article by Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, offering tips to parents on avoiding the H1N1 flu as their children prepare for the new school year.

"Back to School -- Without the Swine Flu"

<http://www.westsidetoday.com/s12-1369/back-to-school-without.html>

Newswire Explores Cognitive Decline in the Elderly

Asian News International reported Aug. 8 on research by Dr. Arun Karlamangla, associate professor of geriatrics, finding no link between the elderly's socioeconomic status and cognitive decline. The report appeared Aug. 8 in the Argentina Star, Newstrack India and Smash Hits, and Newspost Online on Aug. 11. The study was published in the American Journal of Epidemiology

"Socio-economic Status Plays No Major Role in Cognitive Decline in Elderly"

<http://www.newstrackindia.com/newsdetails/116047>

Hindustan Times Reports on New Target for Alzheimer's Treatment

David Teplow, professor of neurology, was featured in the August 12 Hindustan Times about his study in which he reconstructed amyloid-beta brain clusters associated with Alzheimer's in the laboratory and determined their levels of toxicity.

Industry Trade Looks into Furlough Issues

The August 6 issue of Payers & Providers covered initiatives that the University of California hospitals are exploring to accommodate reduced state funding.

"Some UC Doctor Furloughs Likely"

<http://www.payersandproviders.com/publications/pp86.pdf>

QUOTABLES

Dr. John Adams, professor of orthopaedic surgery, was quoted Aug. 9 in Reuters and Aug. 11 in the Los Angeles Times about an osteoporosis drug that is due for U.S. Food and Drug Administration review.

"Review of Amgen Bone Drug to Focus on Safety"

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssBiotechnology/idUSN1043119920090810>

“New Osteoporosis Drug Shown to Reduce Fractures”

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-sci-bone-drug12-2009aug12,0,1313143.story>

Dr. Benjamin Ansell, director of the UCLA Comprehensive Health Program, was quoted in an Aug. 11 Newsweek column about seeking health and medical advice on the Internet.

“Dot-Com Diagnosis: How to Use the Internet to Get the Best Health Advice”

<http://blog.newsweek.com/blogs/thehumancondition/archive/2009/08/11/dot-com-diagnosis-how-to-use-the-internet-to-get-the-best-health-advice-without-freaking-yourself-out.aspx>

Dr. Ronald Busuttil, executive chair of surgery and Dumont Professor of Transplantation Surgery, was quoted August 9 in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette about living-donor liver transplants.

“Is a Living Liver Donation Worth the Risk?”

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/09221/989702-114.stm>

Anthony Butch, director of the UCLA Olympic Analytical Lab, commented Aug. 7 and Aug. 8 in two Orlando Sentinel stories about DHEA, a banned substance allegedly used by a suspended professional basketball player.

“Wondering About Rashard Lewis' Suspension? Get Answers Here”

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/sports/orlando-magic/orl-sportsmagic-rashard-lewis-qa-07080709aug07,0,2038278.story>

“DHEA, Substance that Led to Rashard Lewis' Suspension, Isn't Hard to Come By”

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/sports/basketball/magic/orl-dhea-rashard-lewis-080809,0,6661888.story>

Tyrone Cannon, the Staglin Family Professor of Psychology, Psychiatry & Biobehavioral Sciences at the Semel Institute, commented Aug. 2 in the San Francisco Chronicle about UCLA's efforts to uncover biological signals that will help identify people headed toward psychosis.

“MENTAL HEALTH: Spotting, and Treating, Early Signs of Psychosis”

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/08/01/MNNR18VBTV.DTL>

Gregory Cole, professor of medicine and neurology and associate director of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer Disease Research, commented Aug. 11 in HealthDay News about the benefits of diet and exercise to prevent Alzheimer's. The article also appeared on the websites for US News & World Report, Yahoo, MSN and the Springfield News-Sun (OH).

“Mediterranean Diet Plus Exercise Lowers Alzheimer's Risk”

<http://health.usnews.com/articles/health/healthday/2009/08/11/mediterranean-diet-plus-exercise-lowers.html>

Dr. Johannes Czernin, chief of nuclear medicine at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, commented Aug. 9 in a Los Angeles Times story about how the shortage of a radioisotope widely used in medical imaging for heart disease and cancer has forced physicians to postpone or cancel needed tests or resort to less accurate scans.

“Isotope Shortage Means a Healthcare Crisis”

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-sci-isotope9-2009aug09,0,6453741.story>

Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, medical director of the kidney and pancreas transplantation program, commented Aug. 10 in a ProPublica story about an illegal organ trafficking scheme in New York.

“How Did Organ Trafficking Scheme Stay Hidden?”

<http://www.propublica.org/article/how-did-organ-trafficking-scheme-go-unnoticed-810>

Dr. Michelle Eslami, clinical professor of geriatrics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Aug. 12 in a Reno Gazette-Journal article about a volunteer awards ceremony and the health benefits of volunteering.

“RSVP Volunteers Honored at Awards Luncheon”

<http://rgj.com/article/20090812/DAYTON03/908120437/1042/DAYTON>

Dr. Robert Kim Farley, professor of epidemiology at the School of Public Health, was cited in an Aug. 7 CNN.com article about how U.S. schools are dealing with the threat of H1N1 swine flu.
"In Time of Swine Flu, Add Sanitizer, Tissues to School Supply Lists"
<http://edition.cnn.com/2009/HEALTH/08/07/swine.flu.h1n1.schools/>

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented Aug. 6 in HealthDay News about men that are diagnosed with angina tending to do worse than women.
"Men with Angina Do Worse than Women"
<http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=629760>

Gerald Kominski, associate director of the Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health, commented Aug. 7 in the Riverside Press-Enterprise about the rising number of patients eligible for Riverside County's medically indigent services program.
"Riverside County Medical Program for Low-Income Sees Surge in Demand as Funds Fall"
http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_S_medicalpoor07.406ef7b.html

Dr. Jason Lerner, assistant clinical professor of pediatric neurology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented Aug. 13 in USA Today about testing children with epilepsy early to help detect later learning disabilities.
"Test Kids with Epilepsy Early to Spot Learning Disabilities"
http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2009-08-12-epilepsykids_N.htm

Jack Needleman, associate professor of health services at the UCLA School of Public Health, was cited in an Aug. 7 Bloomberg article about how reform of the nation's health care system may affect drug sales.
"CVS Sees Higher Sales from Coverage for Uninsured"
http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=aDbZw_0zQtWQ

Dr. William Parker's book "A Gynecologist's Second Opinion" was quoted in an Aug. 10 Chicago Daily Herald article about laparoscopic surgery to remove uterine fibroids. Parker is clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology and a staff gynecologist at Santa Monica–UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital.
"Fibroid Removal Could Prevent Unnecessary Hysterectomies"
<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=311121>

Dr. Linda Rosenstock, dean of the School of Public Health, was quoted in the Aug 4 Los Angeles Times about a possible vaccine for the H1N1 virus.
"Pneumonia Vaccine May Help Limit Swine Flu Deaths"
<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-sci-pneumonia4-2009aug04,0,6872284.story>

Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging at the Semel Institute, commented July 15 in a New Scientist article about the contribution that genes make to intelligence.
"Intelligence: Nature Outpaces Nurture as Kids Get Older"
<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20327174.600-intelligence-nature-outpaces-nurture-as-kids-get-older.html>

=====

UCLA's Health Sciences Media Relations office e-publishes this report weekly. For more information, please call Roxanne Moster, director of Health Sciences Media Relations, or Elaine Schmidt, senior media relations officer, at 310-794-0777. Our office also offers publicity for new research, medical breakthroughs, clinical trial recruitment, inspirational patient stories and more. To identify the appropriate public information officer for your department, visit www.uclahealth.org/mediacontacts