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BRIEFS

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Superhero Grime Fighters Delight Pediatric Patients
KCBS-Channel 2, KNBC-Channel 4, KTLA-Channel 5, KABC-Channel 7, KCAL-Channel 9, KTTV-Channel 11, Univision’s Primer Impacto, KVEA-Channel 52, The Weather Channel, NTD Global Network Television (China), Fuji TV (Japan), EFE News, Hoy, and dozens of local news affiliates nationwide featured Aug. 13 the second annual Superhero Day when window washers dressed as Batman, Captain America, Spider-Man and Wonder Woman descended from the roof of Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA
onto the 5th floor Chase Child Life terrace and visited with pediatric patients. Kellye Carroll, director of the Chase Child Life program at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, and child life specialist Karleen Wray were interviewed. Dr. Debra Lotstein, associate clinical professor of pediatrics at UCLA, and child life specialist Katelynn Natale were quoted in the Hoy article. The Los Angeles Times ran a photo and caption on Aug. 14.

Depression and Addiction Experts Featured in Reports on Robin Williams’ Death
Various outlets reported on the issues—depression and addiction—that were reported to be the possible cause for the suicide of actor Robin Williams.
- Dr. Jeff Bronstein, professor of Neurology and director of the Movement Disorder Program, was featured in an Aug. 13 Los Angeles Times article about the link between depression and Parkinson’s disease, and interviewed by KNX 1070AM.
- Dr. Karen Miotto, professor of clinical psychiatry and director of the Alcoholism and Addiction Medicine Service in the Semel Institute, was quoted in the Aug. 11 Los Angeles Times about what to do if you suspect someone has suicidal thoughts.
- Dr. Emanuel Maidenberg, director of the UCLA Cognitive Behavior Therapy Clinic, and an associate clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a Aug. 11 NBC News article that depressed people often do not have the energy to look for help and may need assistance from a loved one.
- Dr. Michael Gitlin, professor of psychiatry and director of the Mood Disorders Clinic at the Semel Institute, was featured in an Aug. 12 KABC-Channel 7 segment discussing depression and its common link to addiction, and if you suspect someone has suicidal thoughts, just ask them.
- Dr. Andrew Leuchter, professor of psychiatry and director of the Laboratory of Brain, Behavior, and Pharmacology at the Semel Institute, was interviewed Aug. 13 on the KPCC 89.3FM program AirTalk with Larry Mantle about Major Depressive Disorder (MDD), treatments, and the stigma attached to MDD.

Where Diabetics Live Influences Amputation Rate
A UCLA study finding that poor people with diabetes are up to 10 times likelier to lose a limb than patients living in wealthier neighborhoods was reported Aug. 13 by the Los Angeles Daily News; Aug. 12 by a Scientific American podcast; Aug. 9 by Parent Herald; Aug. 8 by The Celebrity Café, Diabetes Insider, Clinical Advisor and Guardian Liberty Voice; and Aug. 7 by Reuters and KSBY-TV (San Luis Obispo). Dr. Carl Stevens, a clinical professor of medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; and Dr. Dylan Roby, director of health economics at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and an assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health; were quoted. The Reuters report was syndicated by Yahoo! News.

Earlier Intervention for Heart Attack Linked to Better Survival
Women’s Health Aug. 11; dailyRx Aug. 7; Journal of Invasive Cardiology, Sierra Sun Times, MedicalXpress, News-Medical and Fars News Agency Aug. 5; and Cath Lab Digest, Health Canal, Examiner.com, Science Daily and World News Aug. 4 covered a study showing that changes in the treatment of the most common form of heart attack over the past decade have been associated with higher survival rates for men and women regardless of age, race and ethnicity. The study also suggests there is room for improvement in specific patient groups. Senior author Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted in the coverage.

UCLA Honors Former World Boxing President
A tribute luncheon organized by UCLA Health System and the UCLA Department of Neurosurgery to honor the legacy of former World Boxing Council president Jose Sulaiman was covered Aug. 14 by the blog My Boxing Fans and ESPN Deportes; Aug. 13 by Televisa Deportes, Hijos De La Radio and Mivoz Radio; and Aug. 12 by ESPN; San Diego’s Vida Latina; Mexico’s El Universal; and the international Spanish news wire, EFE News, which was syndicated by Fox News Latino, Televisa Deportes, Radio Formula, LA Información and more.

KRLA Focuses on U.S. News & World Report’s ‘Best Hospitals’
KRLA 870AM’s “The Answer” July 27 featured an interview with Dr. David Feinberg, president of UCLA Health System and CEO for the UCLA Hospital System, discussing the U.S. News & World Report ‘Best Hospitals’ rankings.

**Biosensor Study Grabs Headlines**

*Science Daily, Science Codex* and *Medical Xpress* Aug. 7; *Product Design and Development, Med India, Azo Sensors, News-Medical.net* Aug. 8, *redOrbit* Aug. 12; *Health Canal* Aug. 13, and *Med Gadget* Aug. 14 reported on a study of a new disposable biosensor that monitors gut sounds. The study was led by Dr. Brennan Spiegel, a professor of medicine in residence at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and the Fielding School of Public Health.

**Medical Schools Should Do More to Enroll Undocumented Students**

*KMEX-Channel 34* Aug. 6 and *MedicalXpress* reported Aug. 7 on a paper from the UCLA Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture (CESLA) urging medical schools to do more to enroll undocumented students who are in the United States under Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

**Hitched Mag Measures Bone Health and Marriage**

*Hitched* magazine reported Aug. 7 on a study suggesting that men who marry or are in committed, stable relationships prior to age 25 have weaker bones than those who marry after that age.

**High-Performing Schools and Risky Behavior**

*Reuters Health* reported Aug. 8 on research led by Dr. Mitchell Wong, a professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that students admitted to high-performing high schools were less likely to engage in very risky health behaviors and also achieved higher test scores than their counterparts who were not admitted to those schools. The *Pakistan Observer* ran the article Aug. 12.

**How to Beat the Summer Heat and Prevent Workout Injuries**

Dr. John DiFiori, professor of family medicine, was featured Aug. 11 on Time Warner Cable Sport Channel’s “Get Fit” program in a report on ways to beat the summer heat and prevent work-out injuries before they happen.

**Back-to-School Immunization Reminder from Santa Monica**

The Santa Monica Daily Press Aug. 13 published back-to-school immunization guidelines provided by UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Dr. Piper Calasanti, pediatrician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was quoted in the article.

**Chinese World Journal Features Hospital and Health System’s Expansion into Community**

The July 26 *Chinese World Journal* featured three (1, 2, 3) articles on Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center focusing on its advanced technology, telemedicine, emergency room services and specialized medical services. Additionally, the Aug. 2 *Chinese World Journal* featured two (1, 2) articles that covered UCLA’s expansion of medical offices and specialty clinics in Los Angeles County to provide easier healthcare access to the community; the new UCLA Endocrine Center spearheaded by Dr. Michael Yeh, associate professor of surgery; and how UCLA was one of the first in southern California to use endomicroscopy to diagnose and treat certain biliary duct and pancreatic duct problems. In addition to Yeh, the articles also quoted Dr. Rabindra Watson, a clinical assistant professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases, and Dr. J. Thomas Rosenthal, chief administrative officer, UCLA Health Systems.

**New York Radio Station Reports on Prostate Cancer Study**

*WOR-FM* (New York) reported on a study by Dr. Jim Hu that found depressed men with prostate cancer get less effective therapies and experience shorter survival times. Hu is director and Henry Singleton Chair in Robotic and Minimally Invasive Surgery.

**KCRW Reports on Early Signs of Schizophrenia**
Dr. Carrie Bearden, clinical neuropsychologist and associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was interviewed Aug. 13 on the KCRW 89.9FM Madeline Brand Show about the genetic influences on brain structure in the development of psychosis, and her work with teens to identify the early signs of schizophrenia.

DailyDot Asks if Bitcoin is Addictive
Dr. Timothy Fong, an associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, director of the Impulse Control Disorders Clinic, and director of the Addiction Medicine Clinic, was featured in an Aug. 8 Dailydot.com article about whether the buying and selling of the digital currency Bitcoin could be addictive.

QUOTABLES
Dr. Abbas Ardehali, professor of cardiothoracic surgery and director of the heart, lung and heart-lung transplant programs at UCLA, was quoted Aug. 9 in a Boston Globe Magazine article about a Boston-based company called Transmedics that created a new experimental system to transport donor hearts and lungs on a platform that keeps them functioning, as opposed to the traditional method of an ice box.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted in a HealthDay News story Aug. 11 that also ran in U.S. News & World Report that focused on a study examining the risks and use of digoxin to treat patients with atrial fibrillation.

Dr. Peter Galier, internal medicine physician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and professor of medicine, commented Aug. 13 in a WebMD article on a new at-home colon cancer test that has shown to be more accurate than those currently available.

Shadman Habibi, a certified nurse midwife at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, was quoted Aug. 11 in a Tablet article on Orthodox Jewish women and their growing use of Orthodox doulas during childbirth.

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor and vice chair in the UCLA Department of Family Medicine, commented in an Aug. 12 Good Morning America report about Walmart’s plan to open retail primary care clinics at some of its outlets.

Dr. Zachary Rubin, associate clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, commented in a June 26 KTLA-Channel 5 report on E.coli and ways to avoid it during summer grilling season.

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