



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Aug. 9-15, 2013**

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.

Fish Oil May Reverse Liver Damage in Some Children with Intestinal Failure

Helping Foreign Doctors Help the U.S.

Trade Pubs Note Announcement of Leadership Change

Campus Revamping Tech Transfer

Combating 'Information Overload' in Science

Uncovering the Brain's GPS

Gene Mutation Increases Schizophrenia Risk

UCLA Eye Institute's New Affiliation

Angels Fun Ride Donates to Blood Center

KABC, Univision Highlight Craniofacial Reunion

Kids Need Their Immunizations

Donor Heart Gives Navy Child a Second Chance

Online Chronicling of Breast Cancer Experience Reduces Depression

UCLA Prostate Cancer Research Program Receives \$11.6 Million Grant Renewal

Former UCLA Basketball Star's Visit Helps Pediatric Patients Bounce Back

Paper Notes UCLA Health's Expanding Services in South Bay

SM Paper Reminds Parents to Immunize Their Children

Geriatrician's Column Offers Health Tips for Maintaining Independence

Sci-News Says Be Happy: Your Genes May Thank You

NBC News Looks at Claims by Coke

Media Examines Sexual Addiction

Trade Covers Brain Aneurysm Treatment for Arrhythmia

Local Media Cover Calif Dept of Public Health Penalties

QUOTABLES

Fish Oil May Reverse Liver Damage in Some Children with Intestinal Failure

[United Press International](#) and [Food Product Design](#) Aug. 15; [Health Canal](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [News-Medical.net](#) and [Science Codex](#) Aug. 14 reported on a new UCLA study that found a six month protocol of fish oil is safe and effective in treating liver disease in children with intestinal failure who require intravenous nutrition. Additionally, the fish oil may also decrease the need for liver and/or intestinal transplants. The study's lead author, Dr. Kara Calkins, assistant professor of pediatrics in the division of neonatology and developmental biology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted.

Helping Foreign Doctors Help the U.S.

The [Riverside Press-Enterprise](#) reported Aug. 13 on UCLA's International Medical Graduates program, a training program run through the UCLA Department of Family Medicine that assists bilingual graduates from Latin American medical schools in preparing to become family physicians in California. Program founders Dr. Patrick Dowling, chair of the family medicine department, and Dr. Michelle Bholat, vice chair of the department, were featured. The article also ran Aug. 14 in [La Prensa](#) and [MedCity News](#).

Trade Pubs Note Announcement of Leadership Change

[BioCentury](#), Pink Sheet and the AAMC News & Leadership newsletter Aug. 13 noted the announcement from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) that Dr. Eugene Washington, first chair of the PCORI Board of Governors, has informed the U.S. Government Accountability Office that he will step down from that position and leave the board at the end of 2013. Washington, vice chancellor of UCLA Health Sciences and dean of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, has served as chair since Sept. 23, 2010, when the full board was announced.

Campus Revamping Tech Transfer

The [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) reported Aug. 12 on efforts to enhance the technology-transfer process at UCLA. Dr. James Economou, vice chancellor for research and professor of surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Brendan Rauw, associate vice chancellor and executive director of the UCLA Office of Intellectual Property and Industry Sponsored Research, were quoted.

Combating 'Information Overload' in Science

[Domain-b](#) reported Aug. 13 on the development of research "maps" by Dr. Alcino Silva, professor of neurobiology and psychiatry, and colleagues that allow neuroscientists to sift quickly through mountains of published research papers in their field to discover what findings have been made and determine what to study next. Silva was quoted.

Uncovering the Brain's GPS

The Philippines' [GMA News Service](#) reported Aug. 10 on research by Dr. Itzhak Fried, professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, and colleagues showing that the human brain contains a navigational system made up of "grid" cells. Fried was quoted.

Gene Mutation Increases Schizophrenia Risk

Dr. Nelson Freimer, professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Center for Neurobehavioral Genetics, was featured in the Aug. 11 [Imperial Valley News](#) and Aug. 14 [Domain-b](#) regarding his research showing a biological link between schizophrenia and Fragile X syndrome, a disorder associated with intellectual impairment and autism.

UCLA Eye Institute's New Affiliation

The [Ophthalmology Times](#) reported Aug. 14 that the Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA is planning a long-term affiliation with the Doheny Eye Institute. Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and associate vice chancellor for health sciences, was quoted.

Angels Fun Ride Donates to Blood Center

The [Acorn](#) Aug. 15 spotlighted a donation of more than \$36,000 in proceeds from the 2013 Volkswagen City of Angels Fun Ride to the UCLA Blood and Platelet Center during a ceremony held on Aug. 8. The Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center mobile blood donation program collects some 22,000 units of blood a year, supplying half of the blood transfusions for gravely ill patients at UCLA Health System's hospitals.

KABC, Univision Highlight Craniofacial Reunion

[KABC-Channel 7](#) and [Univision](#) Aug. 11 aired pieces on a reunion of craniofacial pediatric patients and their caregivers at UCLA.

Kids Need Their Immunizations

The [Los Angeles Times](#) Aug. 11 featured an op-ed by Dr. Nina Shapiro, associate professor of head and neck surgery and director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, urging parents of young school-age children to have their kids immunized. Shapiro was also interviewed Aug. 14 by [Salon](#) and [KKSF 910AM](#) (San Francisco).

Donor Heart Gives Navy Child a Second Chance

The Military Times reported Aug. 12 on a toddler who received a heart transplant at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA on July 4th. The boy's father, who is an officer in the Navy, and his grateful family are now on a mission to spread awareness about organ donation. Dr. Juan Alejos, professor of pediatric cardiology and medical director of the pediatric heart transplant program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was interviewed.

Online Chronicling of Breast Cancer Experience Reduces Depression

[EmpowerHer](#), [Examiner.com](#), [HealthCanal](#), [About.com](#), [Topix](#), and [SiloBreaker](#) Aug.13, and [Science Codex](#), [ScienceBlog](#), [National Cancer Institute](#), [CANCERforward](#), [ShootForLife](#), [Regator](#), [BioPortfolio](#), [Medical News Today](#), [Bio-Medicine](#), [e! Science News](#), [Acne Treatments Info](#), [Quality Computer News](#), and [24dunia.com](#) Aug. 14 featured research led by Dr. Annette Stanton, member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and professor of psychology and psychiatry/biobehavioral sciences, showing that women who took a three-hour workshop on how to build a personal website, then chronicled their experiences with breast cancer online, had fewer depressive symptoms six months after the workshop. Stanton was quoted extensively in the coverage.

UCLA Prostate Cancer Research Program Receives \$11.6 Million Grant Renewal

[News-Medical.net](#) Aug. 8 and [Imperial Valley News](#) Aug. 11 reported that UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center (JCCC) and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA's Department of Urology have received an \$11.6 million grant renewal from the National Cancer Institute as a Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) in prostate cancer. Dr. Robert Reiter, Bing Professor of Urologic Research and SPORE principal investigator; Dr. Mark S. Litwin, professor and chair of the department of urology; Dr. James Economou, UCLA vice chancellor of research and professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics, molecular and medical pharmacology, and surgical oncology; Dr. Judith Gasson, JCCC director, professor of medicine and senior associate dean for research; and Dr. Eugene Washington, vice chancellor of UCLA Health Sciences and dean of David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, were quoted in the coverage.

Former UCLA Basketball Star's Visit Helps Pediatric Patients Bounce Back

An Aug. 14 Los Angeles [Daily News](#) story chronicled former UCLA basketball star Jordan Farmar as he visited sick children at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Farmar, back with the Los Angeles Lakers, signed autographs and encouraged patients at Mattel Children's Pediatric Unit and the Daltrey/Townshend Teen and Young Adult Cancer Program. Laila Ramji, child life specialist, was quoted in the article. The Santa Monica Daily Press published a photo of Farmar's visit Aug. 14.

Paper Notes UCLA Health's Expanding Services in South Bay

The July 24 [Beach Reporter](#) spotlighted two physicians--Dr. Jason Hove, family medicine physician, and Dr. Marian Kaldas, rheumatologist and internal medicine specialist—who joined the UCLA-Torrance office, expanding the services offered at the new UCLA Health System network office.

SM Paper Reminds Parents to Immunize Their Children

The Aug. 11 [Santa Monica Mirror](#) featured UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica in an article reminding parents to immunize their children before returning to school. Dr. Denise Sur, director of the Family Medicine Residency Program and chief of staff, was quoted throughout the story.

Geriatrician's Column Offers Health Tips for Maintaining Independence

Dr. Maija Sanna, geriatrician and internist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, authored an Aug. 11 [Santa Monica Mirror](#) column offering tips to help seniors stay active and independent as they age.

Sci-News Says Be Happy: Your Genes May Thank You

Research by Dr. Steven Cole, associate professor of medicine and a member of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology, was featured in the Aug. 8 [Metro](#) (U.K.) and the Aug. 12 [Sci-News](#). His study showed that individuals whose happiness stems from a deep sense of purpose and meaning in life show a favorable genetic expression, while those whose happiness comes from self-gratification show an adverse expression.

NBC News Looks at Claims by Coke

Dr. David Heber, professor of medicine and director of the Center for Human Nutrition, was featured Aug. 15 on the NBC [Today Show](#), commenting on the launch of an advertising campaign by Coca Cola to defend its use of the sweetener aspartame.

Media Examines Sexual Addiction

Dr. Nicole Prause, a researcher in the department of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was interviewed Aug. 12 on the [Senior Voice America](#) show on WMGG 1470AM, and Aug. 13 on [BBC Mundo](#) about her study that examined brain responses to sex-related stimuli in individuals who could be considered to be suffering from a sexual "addiction."

Trade Covers Brain Aneurysm Treatment for Arrhythmia

A July 26 [Cardiac Rhythm News](#) feature covered a UCLA team using a technique normally employed on brain aneurysms to treat severe, life-threatening irregular heart rhythms. Senior study author Dr. Kalyanam Shivkumar, director of the UCLA Cardiac Arrhythmia Center and a professor of medicine and radiological sciences, was quoted.

Local Media Cover Calif Dept of Public Health Penalties

[KABC-Channel 7](#) and [KPCC-89.9FM](#), among others, noted that Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was one of 10 hospitals to receive a penalty on Aug. 15 by the California Department of Public Health after investigations found the facilities' noncompliance caused, or was likely to cause, serious injury or death to patients. The incident, which involved a surgically retained sponge, happened several years ago and since then UCLA Health System has worked diligently to monitor and improve its safety measures, including the installation of a digital sponge-counting system which tags and keeps track of sponges used during surgeries.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Brenda Bursch, professor of clinical psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences and of pediatrics, commented Aug. 11 in an [NBC.com](#) story about chronic stomach pain linked to anxiety later in life.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented in an Aug. 15 [USA Today](#) article about research

on heavy coffee consumption. He also commented in an Aug. 12 [Bankrate](#) article about the cost of treating chronic diseases in the United States. In addition, he was quoted Aug. 13 in a [HealthDay News](#) article about research showing that sudden cardiac deaths in sports are much more common among men than women.

Dr. Daniel Geschwind, professor of neurology, was quoted in an Aug. 14 [Time](#) magazine article about left-handedness and brain development.

Dr. Aric Gregson, associate clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, was quoted Aug. 9 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about promising test results for a potential new malaria vaccine.

Dr. David Hayes-Bautista, professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research and director of the UCLA Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, was quoted Aug. 8 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about efforts to inform and educate non-English-speaking Latinos in California about the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, director of the UCLA Blum Center on Poverty and Health in Latin America and professor of family medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Aug. 11 in a [Sacramento Bee](#) article about health care providers trained to administer to underserved ethnic populations in California. He was also interviewed Aug. 9 in a [KMEX-Channel 34](#) report on a study finding an increase in emergency room visits for drug overdoses among younger adults.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, commented in the Sept. issue of *Real Simple* about the benefits to the brain of exercising regularly and maintaining a healthy diet.

Dr. Melissa Spencer, a professor of neurology and co-director of the Center for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy at UCLA, was quoted Aug. 15 in the science blog [Nautilus](#) in a story on a rare form of muscular dystrophy.

Dr. Lonnie Zeltzer, professor of pediatrics and director of the pediatric pain program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted Aug. 11 in a [MedPage Today](#) article about research linking abdominal pain in childhood to a higher risk of anxiety and depression in adolescence and adulthood.

=====

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 Enrique Rivero, 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.