Walnuts Boosting Male Fertility Draws Headlines

Research Showing Meditation Can Relieve Loneliness Garners Coverage

Media Report UCLA’s First Aortic Valve Replacement without Open Heart Surgery

Pertussis Expert Speaks Out on Whooping Cough Vaccine Failures

Expert Tapped to Explain Bipolar Disorder

NPR Explores Acid Reflux

Local NPR Station Explores Paul Ryan and the Republican Campaign

LA Times Covers Blue Shield UCLA Agreement

PBS Chronicles Launch of Caregiver Support Group

Double Organ Transplant Story Makes Headlines

American Medical News Spotlights Bullying Culture in Medical Schools

Retinoblastoma Study Continues to Garner Headlines

Daily Forward Explores Gaucher’s Link to Parkinson’s

New Medical Building Draws Attention from Architectural Record

Melanoma Study Featured on Web News Sites

UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic Provides Free Exams

Pulmonologist Pens Column on Nasal Congestion

Doctor Discusses Kids’ Breathing Issues

Trade Magazine Spotlights Operation Mend

Local Radio Station Discusses Mental Illness in the Black Community

Health Blog Cites Ovarian Cancer Study

Montreal Gazette Covers Nanoparticle Research
Blog Explores How Fructose Disrupts Memory, Learning

BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

Walnuts Boosting Male Fertility Draws Headlines
A UCLA study on the impact of walnuts on male fertility was covered Aug. 15 by WebMD, KCBS-Channel 2 (KCBS Online Article), Science Daily, Reuters and Daily Mail (U.K); and Aug. 16 by a CBS News blog, a BBC News blog, Asian News International, Agence France-Presse, Britain's Press Association and Good Day Sacramento. Wendie Robbins, a professor at the UCLA School of Nursing and UCLA Fielding School of Public Health was quoted in the coverage.

Research Showing Meditation Can Relieve Loneliness Garners Coverage
A UCLA study showing that practicing meditation helped seniors reduce feelings of loneliness and led to a decrease in the expression of genes associated with chronic inflammation received wide coverage, including July 28 in the Huffington Post; Aug. 13 on KPCC-89.3 FM; Aug. 14 in ScienceDaily.com, MedicalExpress.com, Scienceblog.com and Sciencecodex.com; and Aug. 15 in the Daily Mail (UK), Yahoo! News, PsychCentral.com, NewsMedical.net, Asian News International, RedOrbit.com and MedicalDaily.com. Study authors Steve Cole, professor of medicine and psychiatry at the Semel Institute and a member of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology and Dr. Michael Irwin, professor of psychiatry and the director of the Cousins Center, were featured in the coverage. The Daily Mail article also cited a previous study on meditation by Dr. Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute.

Media Report UCLA’s First Aortic Valve Replacement without Open Heart Surgery
Yahoo News, CNBC.com, Healthcare Industry Today, International Business Times, Los Angeles Business Journal, Health Canal, Digital Journal, Pharmaceutical Industry Today, Science Daily, News Blaze, Bio-Medicine, and websites for television outlets across the country including KAZT-TV (AZ), KOTV (OK), KMPH-TV (Fresno), KSTP-TV (MN), KPTV (OR), WAVE-TV (KY), and WHTM-TV (PA) among others, reported Aug. 15 and Examiner, Medical Express and ZeeNews reported Aug. 16 on Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center performing its first minimally-invasive aortic valve replacement for patients who are not candidates for open-heart surgery. Dr. Jonathan Tobis, clinical professor of cardiology and director of interventional cardiology and Dr. Richard Shemin, chief of cardiothoracic surgery, were quoted in the coverage.

Pertussis Expert Speaks Out on Whooping Cough Vaccine Failures
KPBS San Diego and Investigative Newsource (l-Newsource) reported Aug. 15 on new research that shows the current whooping cough vaccine is failing at a higher rate than expected. Dr. James Cherry, professor of pediatric infectious diseases, was interviewed. In addition, Cherry authored an article about the resurgence of whooping cough published Aug. 15 in the New England Journal of Medicine that was reported on by MyHealthNewsDaily and Consumer Reports. The MyHealthNews article was syndicated by Fox News and Yahoo News.

Expert Tapped to Explain Bipolar Disorder
David J. Miklowitz, professor of psychiatry and director of the Child and Adolescent Mood Disorders Program at the Semel Institute, was interviewed August 14 on KFI-640 AM’s Bill Carroll show and in a San Francisco Examiner blog, and August 15 in the Los Angeles Times about Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr.’s diagnosis of bipolar disorder. Miklowitz explained what the disorder is and how it is treated.

NPR Explores Acid Reflux
NPR’s Morning Edition featured an Aug. 13 interview with Dr. Kevin Ghassemi, clinical programs director for the UCLA Center for Esophageal Disorders, about drinks that can cause acid reflux, including alcohol.

Local NPR Station Explores Paul Ryan and the Republican Campaign
Dylan Roby, director of the Health Economics and Evaluation Research Program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, and an assistant professor at the Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed in an August 13 KPCC-89.3 FM's “AirTalk” segment about Rep. Paul Ryan's stance on Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act, Social Security and the overall role of the federal government.

LA Times Covers Blue Shield UCLA Agreement
The Los Angeles Times reported Aug. 10 that a contract dispute between the UCLA Health System and health insurer Blue Shield of California over reimbursement rates for medical services has been resolved.

PBS Chronicles Launch of Caregiver Support Group
The Aug. 8 PBS nextavenue chronicled the journey of Patti Davis, daughter of former president Ronald Reagan, and how she coped with her father's battle with Alzheimer's disease that ultimately led her to reach out to the UCLA hospitals with the offer of launching a support group for caregivers, friends and loved ones of people with dementia called “Beyond Alzheimer’s.” Davis is a co-facilitator for both groups, with help in Westwood from UCLA geriatric psychiatrist Linda Ercoli, and in Santa Monica from UCLA neuroscientist Xavier Cagigas, both cited in the article.

Double Organ Transplant Story Makes Headlines
The Compton Bulletin featured Aug. 15 and the Examiner and Medical Daily featured Aug. 10 the story of a 32-year-old Compton woman who recently underwent a risky, yet successful, heart and kidney transplant. Her medical team was cited including Dr. David Ross, professor of pulmonology and medical director of the UCLA Lung Transplant Program; Dr. Daniel Cruz, clinical instructor of cardiology; Dr. Richard Shemin, professor and chief of cardiothoracic surgery; and Dr. H. Albin Gritsch, associate professor of urology.

American Medical News Spotlights Bullying Culture in Medical Schools
An Aug. 13 blog in American Medical News about widespread verbal and physical harassment of medical students by senior physicians and residents at U.S. medical schools cited the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA as a leader in anti-bullying programs and policies and highlighted research by Joyce Fried, assistant dean and co-director of continuing medical education. Fried was quoted.

Retinoblastoma Study Continues to Garner Headlines
Today's Topic on Aug. 10 The Imperial Valley News on Aug. 12 and the Desert Sun on Aug. 13 highlighted research that showed babies born to U.S.-born Latinas are at greater risk for retinoblastoma than their foreign-born counterparts. The study was done by Dr. Beate Ritz, a researcher at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and professor and chair of epidemiology and professor of environmental health sciences in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and Julia Heck, an assistant researcher in the Fielding School.

Daily Forward Explores Gaucher’s Link to Parkinson’s
Ted Meyer, artist-in-residence at the David Geffen School of Medicine, was featured in an Aug. 16 article by the Jewish Daily Forward, about the possible link between Parkinson's disease and Gaucher disease, an inherited metabolic disorder.

New Medical Building Draws Attention from Architectural Record
The August edition of Architectural Record features a story and photos about the new UCLA Medical Building on the Santa Monica campus. Richard Azar, director of real estate, design and construction for UCLA Health System, was quoted in the article.

Melanoma Study Featured on Web News Sites
News-Medical.net, Examiner.com and San Diego Health featured research by Dr. Antoni Ribas and Dr. Richard Koya that found pairing a BRAF inhibitor with immunotherapy boosted anti-tumor activity in an animal model of metastatic melanoma. Ribas is a professor of hematology/oncology and Koya is an assistant professor of surgical oncology. Both are members of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.
UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic Provides Free Exams
The Whittier Daily News reported Aug. 15 on UCLA’s Mobile Eye Clinic, operated by the Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA, which recently issued free eye exams and prescription glasses to 30 low-income children in Whittier, Calif.

Pulmonologist Pens Column on Nasal Congestion
Dr. Gerard Frank, internal medicine specialist and pulmonologist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and director of the UCLA Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program, authored a column on nasal congestion in the Aug. 3 Santa Monica Mirror.

Doctor Discusses Kids’ Breathing Issues
The nationally syndicated radio show, “Positive Parenting” interviewed Aug. 13 Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA and associate professor of head and neck surgery, for a segment on common breathing issues experienced by children.

Trade Magazine Spotlights Operation Mend
The Aug. 9 edition of Franchise Essentials Magazine gave the spotlight to Operation Mend, a partnership between UCLA, Brooke Army Medical Center and the V.A. that provides surgical, mental health and other medical services to wounded warriors returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Local Radio Station Discusses Mental Illness in the Black Community
Joshua Grill, director of education for the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer’s Disease Research, was part of an August 15 panel discussion on KTYM-1460 AM about mental illness in the Black community.

Health Blog Cites Ovarian Cancer Study
Health, Medical and Pharmacy News on Aug. 11 highlighted a study by Dr. Oliver Dorigo that tested an experimental drug against ovarian cancer. Dorigo is an assistant professor of gynecologic oncology and a researcher with UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Montreal Gazette Covers Nanoparticle Research
The Montreal Gazette on Aug. 11 featured research by Dr. Robert Schiestl on nanoparticles commonly used in household products that may damage DNA. Schiestl is a professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, radiation oncology and environmental health services and a researcher with UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Blog Explores How Fructose Disrupts Memory, Learning
A rat study by Fernando Gomez-Pinilla, professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, showing how a high-fructose diet can slow the brain and hamper learning was highlighted Aug. 15 on the Melting Mama blog.

BRIEFS
UCLA’s Heart Transplant program was cited Aug. 12 in a Visalia Times Delta article about a man who underwent a heart transplant and is making a remarkable recovery.

QUOTABLES
Dr. George Bartzokis, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an August 9 ABCNews.com article about the use of a prescription drug for cancer to treat Alzheimer’s disease.

Dr. Christopher Cooper, professor of medicine and physiology and director of the Clinical Exercise Physiology Laboratory, commented in the Sept. issue of Vegetarian Times about a study showing how exercise and physical activity lowers stress and anxiety.
Anne Coscarelli, director of the Simms/Mann-UCLA Center for Integrative Oncology at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted Aug. 11 in a Los Angeles Times story about addressing cultural issues surrounding a cancer diagnosis among the Vietnamese community.

Dr. Mark DeAntonio, clinical professor of psychiatry and director of adolescent inpatient services at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an August 12 New York Post article about a book written by the father of a child treated at UCLA who was diagnosed with childhood-onset schizophrenia.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented in an Aug. 9 HealthDay News story, also picked up by Doctor’s Lounge, on a study showing that the cardiac benefits of statin medications outweigh any increased risk of developing diabetes. He also commented in an Aug. 14 HealthDay News article that also ran on Doctor’s Lounge about research showing that certain blood types may increase individuals’ risk of heart disease. He was also quoted in an Aug. 15 HealthDay News story, also picked up by Philly.com, about research suggesting that eating egg yolks is as harmful to your arteries as smoking.

Dr. Peter Galier, internal medicine specialist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and associate professor of medicine, commented in an Aug. 7 WebMD story about a possible link between blood-pressure drugs and lip cancer. He also was quoted in a July 27 HealthDay.com article about the dangers of self-diagnosis via the Internet.

Dr. Christopher Giza, associate professor of neurosurgery and pediatric neurology, and a member of the UCLA Brain Injury Research Center, was quoted in an Aug. 14 ABC Good Morning America segment about actress Kristin Chenoweth, who is not returning to work after suffering a blow to her head. Giza commented on the danger involved in returning too soon to activity after a traumatic brain injury.

Dr. Sharon Hame, professor of orthopaedic surgery, was quoted Aug. 10 in a TakePart.com story about an Olympic runner who finished the race despite breaking a leg during the event.

Dr. Edmond Hewlett, associate professor at the UCLA School of Dentistry, commented Aug. 15 in a HealthDay News article that also ran in U.S. News & World Report about poor oral health among adults with developmental disabilities.

Courtney Lyder, dean of the UCLA School of Nursing, was quoted Aug. 15 in the New York Times about the correlation between bedsores and dysfunctional nursing staff.

Dr. A. Nick Shamie, associate professor of orthopaedic surgery, was quoted Aug. 10 in an Outside magazine article exploring whether sitting on an exercise ball at work is good for one’s back.

Jerome Siegel, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and a member of the UCLA Brain Research Institute, was quoted in an Aug. 9 New Scientist article about the sleep habits of sandpiper birds. Siegel cited research suggesting that sleep evolved as a way for animals to conserve energy.

Dr. Neil Wenger, director of UCLA Health System Ethics Center and professor of general internal medicine, was quoted in an August edition of Medical Ethics Advisor on the ethical implication of the Supreme Court’s ruling upholding the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Frisca Yan-Go, professor of neurology and medical director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Center, was quoted in an Aug. 13 ABC News.com article about how excessive snoring in toddlers may be linked to behavioral issues later on.

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