



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT  
For the week of Aug. 20 - 26, 2010**

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### **Scientists React to Ruling on Embryonic Stem Cell Research**

Jerome Zack, professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics, was quoted Aug. 24 in the Los Angeles Times and USA Today about a federal judge's ruling that blocked a 2009 presidential order to expand federal funding for embryonic stem cell research. Dr. Gay Crooks, professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, commented Aug. 24 on KPCC 98.3 FM's "AirTalk," and Dr. Donald Kohn, professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics, commented Aug. 25 on KNX 1070AM. All are researchers with the UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center.

"NIH Scientists 'Stunned' by Judge's Stem Cell Ruling"

[http://www.usatoday.com/yourlife/health/medical/2010-08-25-stemcells25\\_ST\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/yourlife/health/medical/2010-08-25-stemcells25_ST_N.htm)

"New Ban on Federal Funding for Stem Cell Research"

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/airtalk/2010/08/24/new-ban-on-federal-funding-for-stem-cell-research/>

"Scientists Rush to Use Stem Cell Funding"

<http://www.latimes.com/news/science/la-sci-stem-cells-20100825,0,5608492.story>

### **CBS "Early Show," Local Affiliates Cover Melanoma Drug**

Promising early results on an experimental drug for metastatic melanoma were covered Aug. 26 on the CBS Early Show and Aug. 25 on local CBS affiliates KCAL-Channel 9 and KCBS-Channel 2. Dr. Antoni Ribas, associate professor of hematology/oncology and Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center researcher, was interviewed. The story also aired in more than 100 CBS markets nationwide.

"New Hope for Melanoma Patients?"

<http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=6807879n&tag=related:photovideo>

### **Rise in Uninsured Californians Draws Headlines**

Research led by Shana Alex Lavarreda, director of health insurance studies at the Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health, showing that the number of uninsured Californians rose in every county during the economic downturn, was featured Aug. 24 in the Ventura County Star, and Aug. 23 in the Los Angeles Times, L.A. Weekly, KTLA-Channel 5, KGTV-Channel 10 (San Diego), KICU-Channel 36 (San Jose), KTVU-Channel 2 (San Francisco) and other outlets.

"Ranks of County's Uninsured Swells"

<http://www.vcstar.com/news/2010/aug/24/recession-pushes-more-people-into-ranks-of/>

"UCLA: More Angelenos without Health Insurance"

<http://blogs.laweekly.com/informer/health/ucla-more-angelenos-without-he/>

"8.4 Million Californians Lack Health Coverage as the Ranks of the Uninsured Swell, Study Finds"

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2010/08/number-of-californians-without-health-insurance-continues-to-increase-ucla-study-finds.html>

### **NPR Distinguishes between Abuse, Discipline**

Dr. Charles Sophy, clinical instructor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and medical director for the L.A. County Department of Children and Family Services, appeared Aug. 23 on the National Public Radio program "Tell Me More." He explained how to recognize abuse versus appropriate discipline for a misbehaving child.

"Moms: Not My Business"

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=129404359>

### **HealthDay Explores Social Stress' Link to Inflammation**

Research by George Slavich, a postdoctoral scholar at the Semel Institute, was featured in an Aug. 25 HealthDay News article. His study found that social stress and rejection can trigger inflammation, which increases the risk of asthma, arthritis, cardiovascular disease and other maladies.

"Stressful Social Situations May Be Physically Harmful in Some"

<http://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=118991>

### **Channel 7 Profiles "Cool Kid" Researcher at UCLA**

KABC-Channel 7 aired an Aug. 19 "Cool Kids" profile of Luis Mota, a high school student learning to conduct medical research through The Step Up Program at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. The

story featured interviews of Mota and his faculty mentor, Dr. Arleen Brown, an associate professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research.

“Cool Kid Pursues Medical Career to Help Others”

[http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=resources/lifestyle\\_community/kids&id=7619580](http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=resources/lifestyle_community/kids&id=7619580)

### **NPR Dips into Tea Research**

An online Aug. 23 National Public Radio report featured research by Susanne Henning, a UCLA visiting professor of clinical nutrition. She found that bottled teas contained very little antioxidants due to the breakdown of polyphenols. Henning was quoted.

“Bottled Tea Comes Up Short in Antioxidant Tests”

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/health/2010/08/23/129377615/bottled-tea-comes-up-short-in-antioxidant-tests?ft=1&f=1053>

### **Emergency Doc Discusses Drunk Driving on “AirTalk”**

Dr. Mark Morocco, associate clinical professor of medicine and associate residency director of emergency medicine, appeared Aug. 26 on KPCC 89.3 FM’s “AirTalk.” He discussed a new study on drinking and driving.

“Where Do You Draw the Line for Drinking and Driving?”

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/airtalk/2010/08/26/drun-k-driving/>

### **Local Papers Publish Column on Bedbugs**

The Aug. 25 Daily News and San Bernardino Sun ran a syndicated column by Dr. Claire Panosian, professor of medicine, division of infectious diseases, about the upswing in bedbugs.

“Bedbug Resurgence Spurs Community Action”

[http://www.dailynews.com/ci\\_15894068?source=email](http://www.dailynews.com/ci_15894068?source=email)

### **California Paper Profiles Double Organ Transplant**

The Contra Costa Times ran an Aug. 21 profile of a five-year-old Northern California boy who underwent a rare heart and kidney transplant at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA. Dr. Gerald Lipshutz, associate professor of liver and pancreas transplantation, and Dr. Hillel Laks, professor of cardiothoracic surgery, were interviewed.

“Small Boy, Big Hurdle”

[http://www.contracostatimes.com/top-stories/ci\\_15843285?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.contracostatimes.com/top-stories/ci_15843285?nclick_check=1)

### **Reuters Reports on Stroke Study Findings**

Reuters reported Aug. 25 on research by Dr. Bruce Ovbiagele, associate professor of neurology and director of the Olive View–UCLA stroke program. He found that one in six stroke patients are discharged from the hospital without prescriptions for lifesaving statin drugs. Ovbiagele was quoted.

“Statin Use after Stroke Rising Slowly”

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKTRE67O5O720100825>

### **Science Magazine Investigates Prostate Cancer’s Origin**

Science Magazine reported Aug. 22 on research by UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and Broad Stem Cell Research Center that uncovered the cell of origin for human prostate cancer. Dr. Owen Witte, director of the UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center and a Jonsson Cancer Center member, and Andrew Goldstein, a graduate student in Witte’s lab, were quoted.

“Cell-of-Origin for Human Prostate Cancer Identified for First Time”

<http://www.sciencemagnews.com/cell-of-origin-for-human-prostate-cancer-identified-for-first-time.html>

### **Lung Expert Clears Air on Mold**

Dr. Gerard Frank, internal medicine specialist and pulmonologist at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, wrote a column on mold published Aug. 20 in the Santa Monica Mirror.

“Clearing the Air on Mold”

### **Reuters Covers Recurring Prostate Cancer**

Reuters reported Aug. 25 on research by Dr. Timothy Daskivich, a urology resident, exploring prostate cancer recurrence and making the decision about whether or not to pursue treatment. Daskivich was quoted.

“Even When Prostate Cancer Returns, Most Survive”

[http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKTRE67O4RR20100825?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+reuters%2FUKHealthNews+%28News+%2F+UK+%2F+Health+News%29](http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKTRE67O4RR20100825?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+reuters%2FUKHealthNews+%28News+%2F+UK+%2F+Health+News%29)

### **California Healthline Examines Primary Care Physician Shortage**

Dr. Neil Parker, senior associate dean for student affairs at the David Geffen School of Medicine, was featured Aug. 23 in a California Healthline article that explored the reasons behind the shortage of primary care physicians in California and across the country.

“Primary Docs Centerpiece of Reform, but Where Are They?”

<http://www.californiahealthline.org/features/2010/primary-docs-centerpiece-of-reform-but-where-are-they.aspx>

### **Local Radio Program Spotlights UCLA’s New Hand Transplant Program**

KCSN 88.5FM on Aug. 25 interviewed Dr. Kodi Azari, surgical director of the hand transplantation program and associate professor of orthopaedic surgery and plastic and reconstructive surgery, about the hospital’s newly launched hand transplant program.

### **Irish Newspaper Explores Fructose Research**

The Independent (Ireland) reported on a study led by Dr. Anthony Heaney, associate professor of endocrinology and medical director of the UCLA Pituitary Tumor and Neuroendocrine Program. He found that pancreatic cancers consume fructose to fuel their growth. He was quoted.

“Cut Sugar to Starve Cancer Cells”

<http://www.independent.ie/health/diet-fitness/cut-sugar-to-starve-cancer-cells-2307921.html>

### **Bakersfield Paper Reports on Health Care Reform**

Nadereh Pourat, director of research and planning at the Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health, and Dylan Roby, a center research scientist, were featured Aug. 21 in the Bakersfield Californian about their evaluation of California’s low-income health care project in Kern County.

“Bridge to Health Care Reform Strained in Kern”

<http://www.bakersfield.com/news/local/x464578258/Bridge-to-health-care-reform-strained-in-Kern>

### **Newspaper Highlights Strawberry Study**

The Scranton Times-Tribune reported Aug. 25 on a study by UCLA’s Center for Human Nutrition that found strawberries have potent antioxidant properties and may offer protection against heart disease, stroke, Alzheimer’s disease and cancer.

“Summer Reds Pack Nutrients”

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/health-science/summer-reds-pack-nutrients-1.972278?localLinksEnabled=false>

## **BRIEFS**

An Aug. 22 Sacramento Bee op-ed highlighted a disagreement among researchers at the School of Public Health over academic research about the impact of diesel air pollution on human health.

“Another View: No Serious Dispute over Diesel’s Role in Dirty Air”

<http://www.sacbee.com/2010/08/22/2972914/no-serious-dispute-over-diesels.html>

Dr. Stephen Feig, professor emeritus of pediatric hematology and oncology at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, was cited Aug. 19 by the Glendale News-Press about a state assembly representative’s effort to pass a bill that would expand the availability of cord blood.

“Assemblyman Fights for Life-Saving Bill”

[http://www.glendalenewspress.com/news/tn-gnp-blood-20100819\\_0,5963503.story](http://www.glendalenewspress.com/news/tn-gnp-blood-20100819_0,5963503.story)

UCLA's Hand Transplant Program was cited in an Aug. 24 Boston Globe article about a new hand transplant program announced at a local hospital.

"Brigham and Women's to Offer Hand Transplants"

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/08/24/brigham\\_and\\_womens\\_to\\_offer\\_hand\\_transplants/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/08/24/brigham_and_womens_to_offer_hand_transplants/)

## QUOTABLES

Gail Abarbanel, director of the Rape Treatment Center at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted in an Aug. 22 Los Angeles Times article about a bill that requires law-enforcement agencies to keep detailed records of DNA evidence gathered during rape and other sexual-assault cases.

"Lawmakers Approve Bill on Handling of DNA Evidence"

[http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-dna-tests-20100822,0,1898107.story?track=rss&utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+latimes%2Fnews%2Flocal+%28L.A.+Times+-+California+\)+Local+News%29](http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-dna-tests-20100822,0,1898107.story?track=rss&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+latimes%2Fnews%2Flocal+%28L.A.+Times+-+California+)+Local+News%29)

Dr. Roy Altman, professor of medicine in the division of rheumatology and arthritis commented in the September issue of Consumer Reports on Health about treatment options for people suffering from knee arthritis.

Dr. James Cherry, professor of pediatric infectious diseases at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted in an Aug. 25 New Scientist article about the recent outbreak of whooping cough.

"Whooping Cough Outbreak Could be Worst in 50 Years"

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn19363-whooping-cough-outbreak-could-be-worst-in-50-years.html>

Dr. Charles Grob, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of child and adolescent psychiatry at Harbor-UCLA, commented Aug. 24 in CNN.com about his research exploring how hallucinogenic drugs may help people with depression, anxiety and other mental health problems. He was also quoted Aug. 21 in the Washington Post and Denver Post about increased tourism to the Peruvian jungle for ayahuasca plant rituals, which are reported to enhance mental health.

"Can Psychedelic Drugs Treat Depression?"

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/08/24/psychedelic.drugs.depression/index.html>

"Peruvian Hallucinogen Ayahuasca Draws Tourists seeking Transforming Experience"

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/08/20/AR2010082002908.html>

Gerald Kominski, professor of public health and associate director of the Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health, commented Aug.21 in the Whittier Daily News about a new California health insurance program for people with pre-existing conditions.

"State Unveils Plan for People with Pre-existing Conditions"

[http://www.whittierdailynews.com/ci\\_15852996](http://www.whittierdailynews.com/ci_15852996)

Dr. Alison Moore, associate professor of geriatrics, was quoted Aug. 24 and Aug. 25, respectively, by WebMD and Asian News International about research suggesting that moderate alcohol consumption may reduce mortality among middle-aged adults.

"For Some, Moderate Drinking May Prolong Life"

<http://www.webmd.com/food-recipes/news/20100824/moderate-drinking-may-prolong-life>

"Moderate Drinking Reduces Mortality"

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/health-fitness/health/Moderate-drinking-reduces-mortality/articleshow/6432345.cms>

John Piacentini, professor of psychiatry and director of the Childhood OCD, Anxiety and Tic Disorders Program at the Semel Institute, commented Aug. 24 in Reuters about research showing that behavioral therapy might help adults with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder who have not responded to drugs.

"Adding Talk Therapy to Meds May Ease Adult ADHD"

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE67N5LX20100824>

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor of family medicine, commented Aug. 20 in a KMEX-Channel 34 report on the recall of eggs due to salmonella contamination. The report also aired Aug. 21 and 23.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Center on Aging, was interviewed Aug. 23 on KABC-Channel 30 (Fresno) about common signs for Alzheimer's disease. He was interviewed Aug. 24 by KCAL-Channel 9 about teens and texting. He commented about technology's impact on social behavior and mental acuity in an article appearing in the Aug. 22 New Straits Times (Malaysia) and Sunday Times (Northern Ireland), and the Aug. 21 Guardian (London).

"5 Signs of Alzheimer's"

[http://abclocal.go.com/kfsn/story?section=news/health/health\\_watch&id=7621895](http://abclocal.go.com/kfsn/story?section=news/health/health_watch&id=7621895)

"KCAL Interview with Dr. Gary Small"

<http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=132156&key=eZAN2qpDhhThnl3OlgLHCf8Jkjinlg03B&email=RChampeau@mednet.ucla.edu>

"How Internet Habits Can Change the Brain"

<http://www.nst.com.my/nst/articles/21wh/Article/>

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