



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT

For the week of Aug. 23-29, 2013

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Media Focuses on Risky Sex Reduction

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BRIEFS

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Taiwanese Octogenarian Motorcyclists Zoom to UCLA

[ETTV America](#) Aug. 26; [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), [KCAL-Channel 9](#) and [KSCI-Channel 18](#) Aug. 23; [Xinhua](#) and [People's Daily](#) Aug. 24; and the [Chinese News Agency \(CNA\)](#) Aug. 25 reported on a group of Taiwanese octogenarian motorcyclists who visited Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center Aug. 23 to promote a documentary about them that premiered the next night in Los Angeles. Shannon O'Kelly, chief operating officer for UCLA Health System, was quoted by ETTV, KSCI, Xinhua and CNA. The CNA report was syndicated by the Taiwan News, Taipei Times, the China Post and the Big News Network.

Media Notes Link between Iron and Alzheimer's

Dr. George Bartzokis, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured Aug. 22 in the [Daily Mail](#) (U.K.), Aug. 23 in Medpage.com's the [Gupta Guide](#) and [FoxNews.com](#); Aug. 24 in the [New Zealand Herald](#); and Aug. 25 in [natmonitor.com](#), about his study showing a possible link between the accumulation of iron in the brain and the development of Alzheimer's disease.

When the Brain Prefers One Eye

A study led by Dr. Joshua Trachtenberg, associate professor of neurobiology, that sheds light on how a critical part of the brain works during visual development, was covered Aug. 26 by [MedicalXpress](#), [Asian News International](#), [News Medical](#), [Science Daily](#), [Health Canal](#), [Science Codex](#), [Red Orbit](#), [Med India](#) and [Net India 123](#). Published in the Aug. 25 edition of *Nature*, the finding holds implications for treating amblyopia or lazy eye, a common disorder that occurs when the brain ignores one eye in favor of the other.

News Sites Explore Generic Drug Substitution

[Sierra Sun Times](#) Aug. 21; [Examiner.com](#) and [The Pharma Letter](#) Aug. 23, and [Bio-Medicine](#) Aug. 24 reported on research led by Dr. O. Kenrik Duru, associate professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that substituting brand name therapeutic drugs with their generic counterparts can save Medicare Part D beneficiaries and the government hundreds of dollars a year in drug costs.

Keck Grant Garners Internet Coverage

[News-Medical](#), [Health News](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Phys.org](#) and [Donate Life](#) Aug. 27 highlighted a grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation to Dr. Jerzy W. Kupiec-Weglinski to fund research to improve the quality of donor livers. Kupiec-Weglinski is director of the Dumont-UCLA Transplantation Research Center.

It's Lifestyle Change, Not Weight Loss, that Improves Kids' Health

A study at the UCLA School of Nursing that demonstrated the impact of lifestyle changes on the health of kids was covered Aug. 27 by [Examiner.com](#), Aug. 26 by [Medical News Today](#), Aug. 23 by the [Toronto Sun](#) and Aug. 22 by [Science Codex](#) and [MedicalXpress](#). Lead researcher Christian Roberts, associate research professor at the School of Nursing, was quoted in all of the coverage.

How Ideas Become Innovations

The Aug. 28 edition of [Becker's Hospital Review](#) featured a roundtable discussion with Dr. Molly Coye, chief innovation officer for UCLA's Institute for Innovation in Health, and Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and associate vice chancellor for health sciences, addressing issues of innovation within the UCLA Health System.

UCLA Health System's Patient-Centered Care

Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and associate vice chancellor for health sciences, was interviewed Aug. 19 in a [Hospitals and Health Networks video](#) about the UCLA Health System's organizational strategies and unique patient-centered approach.

UCLA Health System's Integrated Provider Network

The [Physicians News Network](#) reported Aug. 18 that as the implementation of the Affordable Care Act nears, independent doctors in Los Angeles County have expressed interest in affiliating with UCLA through an integrated provider network that would not require them to give up their own practices. Dr. Patricia Kapur, executive vice president of the UCLA Health System and CEO of the UCLA Faculty Practice Group, was quoted.

Getting the Word Out about Operation Mend

KBUR 1490AM (Des Moines, Iowa) Aug. 26 and WOCA 1370AM (Daytona Beach, Fla.) Aug. 29 interviewed Melanie Gideon, manager of UCLA's Operation Mend, about the program which offers reconstructive surgery and other medical services to military personnel wounded in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Richard Azar, director of Operation Mend, was also interviewed Aug. 26 on WEGP 1390AM (Maine).

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

[Science Daily](#) Aug. 14 and [News-Medical](#) Aug. 16 reported on a new study finding that, compared to soybean oil, six months of fish oil could safely reverse liver disease in children with intestinal failure who require intravenous nutrition and could decrease the need for liver and/or intestinal transplants. The study's lead author, Dr. Kara Calkins, assistant of pediatrics in the division of neonatology and developmental biology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted.

Girl Heads Back to School Following Heart Transplant

[KCRA-Channel 3](#) (Sacramento/Modesto) reported Aug. 21 on a fourth grade girl who was able to start school this year following a recent heart transplant at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA.

UCLA Expert Talks Pros, Cons of Robotic Surgery on The Health Care Channel

The [Health Care Channel](#) Aug. 28 featured Dr. Erik Dutson, assistant professor of surgery and executive medical director for the Center for Advanced Surgical Interventional Technologies at UCLA, in a story on the pros and cons of robotic surgeries.

Transplant Patient Profiled by the Sierra Star

The [Sierra Star](#) on Aug. 27 ran a story about Emily Solomon, a UCLA patient who underwent a total pancreatectomy with islet cell transplant. The surgery was performed by Dr. Howard Reber, professor of surgery. The story also mentioned Dr. Gerald Lipshutz, associate professor of surgery.

ESPN Examines Concussion in the NFL

Dr. David Hovda, professor of neurosurgery and director of the Brain Injury Research Center, was featured in an Aug. 18 ESPN "[Outside the Lines](#)" program about the National Football League and how they are addressing the increasing problem of traumatic brain injury among their players.

New York Times Mag 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. 23 New York Times [Magazine](#) about his study showing 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.

Media Focuses on Risky Sex Reduction

[Medical News Today](#) and MediLexicon reported Aug. 23 on a UCLA/Charles R. Drew University of Science and Medicine study detailing an innovative, culturally tailored intervention that significantly reduced risky sexual behavior among bisexual African American men.

Philadelphia Radio Explores Spirituality and Terminal Illness

Dr. Margaret Stuber, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was interviewed Aug. 24 on [WDDE 91.1FM](#) (Philadelphia) about how spirituality and a sense of purpose in life can help people with chronic or terminal illnesses cope.

Diabetes Meds Also Slash Heart Disease Risk

[E! Science News](#) reported Aug. 27 on a study by Dr. Karol Watson, associate professor of medicine, division of cardiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and colleagues showing that two treatments that slow the development of diabetes also may protect people from heart disease.

Stem Cell Researcher Wins Prestigious McCulloch and Till Award

[Topix](#), [Me'Kono](#), [WeSRCH](#) on Aug. 27 highlighted Dr. Hanna Mikkola, member of the UCLA Eli & Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine & Stem Cell Research and the Jonsson Comprehensive Center and associate professor of molecular, cell, and developmental biology in the life sciences for being named the 2013 recipient of the McCulloch and Till Award by the Society for Hematology and Stem Cells, also known as the ISEH, an annual award given to an outstanding early career investigator in the field of blood-producing stem cells.

Stem Cell Researchers Receive CIRM Early Translational Grants

[Newswise](#), [The Stem Cell Blog](#), [Regator](#), [Family Cord](#), [Topix](#), [Zand Cell](#) and other sites on Aug. 29 reported on four prominent members of UCLA's Eli & Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine & Stem Cell Research who received Early Translational grants totaling \$13M from the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), the state's stem cell agency. Dr. Jerome Zack professor of medicine and microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics; Dr. Robert Reiter, Bing Professor of Urologic Research; Dr. Donald Kohn professor of pediatrics and microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics in the life sciences; and Dr. Gerald Lipshutz, associate professor-in-residence of surgery, urology and medicine are the leaders of the recipient research teams.

BRIEFS

The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA was mentioned as one of the 40 most beautiful medical schools in the U.S. Aug. 27 by [BestMedicalDegrees.com](#).

QUOTABLES

Dr. Bob Baravarian, chief of podiatry at UCLA's Medical Center, Santa Monica commented Aug. 27 in a story on the Web site of ABC affiliate [RTV6](#) (Indianapolis) about a 3-D scan that shows foot damage caused by high heels.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, UCLA's Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted Aug. 28 in a [HealthDay News](#) article about research showing that seniors at risk for heart disease could benefit by taking cholesterol-lowering statin drugs. He was also quoted in an Aug. 27 [HealthDay News](#) article about a new study indicating that men with high cholesterol are at greater risk of heart attacks than their female counterparts. In addition, he was quoted Aug. 26 in a [HealthDay News](#) article about a new wireless implantable defibrillator for heart patients.

Dr. David Heber, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, commented Aug. 24 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about people who attempt to manage their calorie count by avoiding the eating of food during the day so they can drink alcohol at night.

Dr. Andrew Leuchter, professor of psychiatry and director of the Laboratory of Brain, Behavior, and Pharmacology at the Semel Institute, was quoted in the Aug. 28 [Los Angeles Times](#) about a study showing that depression can look very different in men and women, and when these symptoms are factored into a diagnosis, the long-standing disparity between depression rates in men and women disappears.

Dr. Neil Martin, chairman of neurosurgery, described how repeated blows to the head affect the brain in an Aug. 28 article on [NBCNews.com](#) about the National Football League's agreement to pay \$765 million

to settle a lawsuit brought by retirees with advanced dementia as well as the families of players who have died following sports-related head trauma.

Dr. Gary Mathern, professor of neurosurgery and director of the UCLA Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery Program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted Aug. 23 in [NBC News.com](#) and Aug. 26 in the [Daily Mail](#) (U.K.) about the effectiveness of cerebral hemispherectomies — the removal of half the brain — in treating chronic seizures.

Dr. Gary Small, the Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging, professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, was quoted in the Sept. issue of Health Magazine about the importance of eating a healthy diet to help protect brain health. In addition, Small commented Aug. 28 on NBC's [Today.com](#) regarding the phenomenon of elderly spouses sometimes dying within days or even hours of each other.

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