



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT**  
**For the week of Sept. 25 – Oct. 2, 2009**

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**Newsweek Explores Paralyzed Rats' Ability to Run**

**Psychology Today Examines Biology behind Mental Disorders**

**Daily News, KNBC Cover UC Breast Cancer Study**

**ABCNews.com Features Integrative Oncology Experts**

**S.M. Daily Press Reports Spike in ER Visits**

**Forbes Recounts Road to Approval for Infantile Spasm Drug**

**Media Identify Tips to Make Flu Shots Easier on Kids**

**L.A. Times Publishes Essay on Foster Care**

**Press Enterprise Looks at Budget Cuts**

**Dana Foundation Examines Obesity's Link to Smaller Brains**

**Bakersfield TV Highlights Donation to Pediatric Oncologist**

**Respiratory Therapy Trade Reports on New Breathmobile**

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**L.A. Times, Newsweek Compare Brains of the Religious, Nonbelievers**

The research of former graduate student Sam Harris, who recently completed his Ph.D in the lab of Marc Cohen, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in an Oct. 1 Los Angeles Times "Booster Shots" blog. His study showed that devout Christians and nonbelievers use the same regions of the brain to judge the truth of religious and nonreligious propositions.

"Religion: The Heart Believes What It Will, but the Brain Behaves the Same Either Way"

[http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/booster\\_shots/](http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/booster_shots/)

"Fact Impact"

<http://www.newsweek.com/id/216551>

### **Newsweek Explores Paralyzed Rats' Ability to Run**

Newsweek's "Human Condition" blog reported Sept. 24 on a Nature Neuroscience study led by Reggie Edgerton, professor of neurobiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and professor of physiological science at the College of Letters and Science, in which paralyzed rats regained their ability to run after spinal cord injury. Edgerton was quoted.

"Paralyzed Rats Learn to Walk: For Humans, New Hope or Old Hype?"

<http://blog.newsweek.com/blogs/thehumancondition/archive/2009/09/24/paralyzed-rats-learn-to-walk-for-humans-new-hope-or-old-hype.aspx>

### **Psychology Today Examines Biology behind Mental Disorders**

Robert Bilder, professor of psychiatry and director of the Consortium for Neuropsychiatric Phenomics at the Semel Institute, was featured Sept. 26 and Sept. 29 in two online articles about psychiatry's quest to understand the genetic and environmental bases of mental disorders.

"Phenomics—the Phinal Phrontier"

<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/scalliwag/200909/psychologys-shaky-scientific-foundations-part-2-phenomics-the-phinal-phrontier>

"Psychology's Shaky Scientific Foundations"

<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/scalliwag/200909/psychologys-shaky-scientific-foundations-part-2-phenomics-the-phinal-phrontier>

### **NBC's Extra Explains Migraines**

Dr. Neil Martin, chair of neurosurgery, was featured in a Sept. 29 Extra "Lifechangers" show about how to treat migraines and how to distinguish them from a headache that precedes a possible brain aneurysm.

"Lifechangers: Headache Warnings"

<http://extratv.warnerbros.com/videos/?autoplay=true&mediaKey=33005a52-46dc-4504-a9b3-b3176764e74f>

### **Daily News, KNBC Cover UC Breast Cancer Study**

Dr. Arash Naeim, associate professor of hematology/oncology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center, appeared Sept. 29 on KNBC-Channel 4 to discuss a University of California partnership to target breast cancer. The Los Angeles Daily News also cited the program Oct. 1. The ATHENA Breast Health Network will screen 150,000 California women for breast cancer and follow them through five UC cancer centers.

"Sisters Learn to Survive"

[http://www.dailynews.com/news/ci\\_13456777?source=rv](http://www.dailynews.com/news/ci_13456777?source=rv)

### **ABCNews.com Features Integrative Oncology Experts**

ABCNews.com featured Anne Coscarelli and Dr. Mary Hardy, director and medical director, respectively, of the Simms/Mann-UCLA Center for Integrative Oncology at UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center, in a story about the conflicts that can arise when a cancer patient declines conventional therapies for alternative treatment.

"Daughter Worries When Mother Abandons Breast Cancer Medication"

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/OnCallPlusBreastCancerNews/breast-cancer-patients-abandon-proven-meds/Story?id=8714632&page=1>

### **S.M. Daily Press Reports Spike in ER Visits**

The Santa Monica Daily Press reported Oct. 1 on a significant increase in patient visits to UCLA Health System emergency centers in Santa Monica and Westwood. Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center in Santa Monica, was quoted.

"ER Visits Jump at Hospital"

[http://www.smdp.com/Articles-c-2009-09-30-62783.113116\\_ER\\_visits\\_jump\\_at\\_hospital.html](http://www.smdp.com/Articles-c-2009-09-30-62783.113116_ER_visits_jump_at_hospital.html)

### **Forbes Recounts Road to Approval for Infantile Spasm Drug**

Forbes reported Sept. 30 on the efforts of Dr. Donald Shields, professor of pediatric neurology, to win Food and Drug Administration approval for a drug to treat infantile spasms, a rare and sometimes fatal form of epilepsy. He was quoted.

“A Long and Deadly Wait”

<http://www.forbes.com/2009/09/29/fda-drugs-ovation-business-healthcare-sabril.html>

### **Media Identify Tips to Make Flu Shots Easier on Kids**

United Press International and Asian News International on Sept. 28, and Westside Today and the San Fernando Valley Sun on Sept. 30 highlighted how parents can help make flu shots less painful for their children. Dr. Lonnie Zeltzer, director of the Pediatric Pain Program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted.

“Bubbles Minimize Flu Shot Fussing”

[http://www.upi.com/Health\\_News/2009/09/28/Bubbles-minimize-flu-shot-fussing/UPI-99111254116676/](http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2009/09/28/Bubbles-minimize-flu-shot-fussing/UPI-99111254116676/)

“Shots and Kids: How to Minimize the Ouch for Both Parents and Children”

<http://www.westsidetoday.com/n1633/shots-and-kids-how.html>

“Tips for Making Flu Shots Easier on Kids and Parents”

[http://www.sanfernandosun.com/sanfernsun/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=4255&Itemid=2](http://www.sanfernandosun.com/sanfernsun/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=4255&Itemid=2)

### **L.A. Times Publishes Essay on Foster Care**

Susan Edelstein, adjunct assistant professor of pediatrics at UCLA and director of the Training, Intervention, Education and Services for Families(TIES) for Adoption program at UCLA, wrote an op-ed in the Sept. 21 Los Angeles Times about issues with the foster care system.

“What Ails L.A County Foster Care -- And What Doesn't”

<http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/opinionla/la-oe-edlestein21-2009sep21,0,5857040.story>

### **Press Enterprise Looks at Budget Cuts**

A study led by Steven Wallace, professor of public health and associate director of the Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health, was featured in the Sept. 30 Riverside Press-Enterprise. The Center assessed the cumulative effect of state budget cuts on healthcare and services for low-income seniors.

“Senior Insecurity: Inland Programs for Older Residents Face Cuts”

[http://www.pe.com/rss/inland/stories/PE\\_News\\_Local\\_S\\_seniors01.387a0f7.html](http://www.pe.com/rss/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_S_seniors01.387a0f7.html)

### **Dana Foundation Examines Obesity's Link to Smaller Brains**

Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, was featured in a Sept. 21 article on the Dana Foundation's Brain Works website. His brain imaging studies found that the brain regions involved in memory and planning are smaller in overweight and obese people.

“Obesity May Increase Alzheimer's Risk”

<http://dana.org/news/brainwork/detail.aspx?id=23438>

### **Bakersfield TV Highlights Donation to Pediatric Oncologist**

Channel 29 (Bakersfield) reported Sept. 27 on a donation presented to Dr. Noah Federman, assistant professor of pediatric hematology and oncology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, by a former UCLA patient who founded the Cure Our Kids Foundation.

### **Respiratory Therapy Trade Reports on New Breathmobile**

RT for Decision Makers in Respiratory Care reported Sept. 28 on a new UCLA Breathmobile that will visit schools in Long Beach and Wilmington to assess and treat children with asthma. Dr. Maria Garcia Lloret, assistant clinical professor of pediatric allergy and immunology at UCLA's Mattel Children's Hospital, was quoted.

“UCLA Breathmobile Provides Free Asthma Care to California Children”

[http://www.rtmagazine.com/news/2009-09-28\\_01.asp](http://www.rtmagazine.com/news/2009-09-28_01.asp)

### **KCBS Cites Fruit Fly Study**

KCBS-Channel 2 reported Sept. 24 on a study about levels of reactive oxygen in fruit flies. Published in Nature, the research was led by Utpal Banerjee, a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center.

#### **Reuters Covers Grant Received by Sickle-Cell Researcher**

Reuters reported Oct. 1 that Donald Kohn, UCLA professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics, has received a \$486,000 grant from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation to conduct research on sickle-cell anemia.

#### **New York Times Cites Chronic Grief Study**

An article in the Sept. 28 New York Times about dealing with long-lasting grief cited 2008 research by Mary-Frances O'Connor, assistant professor-in-residence of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, that found that certain types of chronic grief activate reward centers in the brain, possibly giving sorrowful memories addiction-like properties. O'Connor was quoted. The article also appeared Sept. 29 in the Seattle Post Intelligencer.

"After a Death, the Pain that Doesn't Go Away"

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/29/health/29grief.html?\\_r=1&emc=eta1](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/29/health/29grief.html?_r=1&emc=eta1)

#### **BRIEFS**

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was mentioned in a Sept. 24 Los Angeles Times sports blog about an upcoming event called "Dribble for the Cure" that will benefit the hospital.

"UCLA Basketball: Dribble for the Cure"

[http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/sports\\_blog/2009/09/ucla-basketball-dribble-for-the-cure.html](http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/sports_blog/2009/09/ucla-basketball-dribble-for-the-cure.html)

The Sept. 26 Tampa Bay Tribune cited a UCLA study finding that surfing the internet may help stimulate brain function in middle-aged and older adults.

"To Celebrate this Month, Try a New Workout"

<http://www2.tbo.com/content/2009/sep/26/4u-to-celebrate-this-month-try-a-new-workout/life-health/>

The 2009 holiday card collection benefiting Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was noted Sept. 28 on the L.A. Parent website

"Holiday Cards for a Cause"

[http://losangeles.parenthood.com/health\\_blog.php](http://losangeles.parenthood.com/health_blog.php)

#### **QUOTABLES**

Dr. David Baron, chief of staff at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, commented in a Sept. 25 KNX AM1070 report about hand washing and preventing the H1N1 virus.

E. Richard Brown, a professor of health services and director of the Center for Health Policy in the School of Public Health, was quoted in the Sept. 29 Daily Breeze about healthcare reform.

"Health Care Reform Efforts Have History of False Starts and Failure"

[http://www.dailybreeze.com/ci\\_13445658](http://www.dailybreeze.com/ci_13445658)

Gregory Cole, professor of neurology at the Semel Institute and associate director of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research, was quoted in a Sept. 30 HealthDay News article about concussions and their possible link to dementia. The article also ran online at Yahoo News, U.S. News & World Report and Forbes. He was also quoted Sept. 20 by the Newport News (VI) Daily Press about the potential for Alzheimer's prevention by controlling inflammation with omega-3 fatty acids and curcumin.

"Dementia Risk Higher for NFL Players"

<http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=631498>

"Using Food to Battle Inflammation"

<http://www.dailypress.com/health/dp-chi-food-battle-inflammation,0,4783390.story>

Dr. David Dawson, assistant professor of pathology and laboratory medicine and a Jonsson Cancer Center researcher, was quoted Sept. 28 about pancreatic cancer in the Sept. 28 Los Angeles Times.

"Pancreatic Cancer: Hard to Diagnose, Even Harder to Treat"

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-closer28-2009sep28,0,7596518.story>

William Dunne, director of emergency preparedness for UCLA's Health System, was quoted in the Oct. 1 Payers & Providers California edition about how Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center will be monitoring the inflow of patients to its emergency department in light of the H1N1 flu season.

"Hospitals, Plans Gear Up for H1N1"

<http://docs.google.com/fileview?id=0B4aqiAmJ6vAWM2Y4ZTU1ZWYtNDA5NC00ODAwLWJmMjAtN2M0ZmE0ODVINTNh&hl=en>

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented Sept. 30 in a HealthDay News story on fish consumption not preventing heart failure. The story ran in the Atlanta Journal Constitution.

"Study Finds Fish Won't Prevent Heart Failure"

<http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=631467>

Dr. Edward Garon, assistant professor of hematology/oncology and a Jonsson Cancer Center researcher, was quoted Sept. 28 in a Los Angeles Times story about pancreatic cancer.

"Pancreatic Cancer: Hard to Diagnose, Even Harder to Treat"

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-closer28-2009sep28,0,7596518.story>

Dr. Christopher Giza, associate professor of pediatric neurology, was quoted in a Sept. 30 HealthDay News article about concussions and their possible link to dementia. The article also ran online at Yahoo News, U.S. News & World Report and Forbes.

"Dementia Risk Higher for NFL Players"

<http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=631498>

Fernando Gomez-Pinilla, professor of neurosurgery and physiological science, was quoted in a Sept. 28 Gannett News Service article about the best foods to eat for your brain.

"Give your Brain a Workout"

<http://www.htnews.com/article/20090928/MAN04/909280411>

Alison Grimes, manager of the audiology clinic at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, commented Sept. 30 in a TIME.com article about new guidelines issued by the European Union to lower the default volume level on iPods within the next two years.

"How High Can I Crank My iPod's Volume?"

<http://www.time.com/time/business/article/0,8599,1926796,00.html>

Dr. Rex Hamilton, director of the UCLA Laser Refractive Center at the Jules Stein Eye Institute, responded to a viewer's question on a Sept. 29 segment of CBS "The Doctors" about potential health risks from wearing disposable contact lenses for longer than two weeks at a time.

Gail Harrison, professor of community health sciences at the UCLA School of Public Health, was quoted in an Oct. 1 Los Angeles Times article about recent changes to the federal government's WIC nutrition aid program.

"WIC Nutrition Program Expands to Cover Fruits, Vegetables"

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-sci-wic1-2009oct01,0,3934595.story>

David Hayes-Bautista, professor of general internal medicine and health services research and director of the Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, addressed poverty, education and health in a Sept. 20 MSNBC special.

"About Our Children"

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/21134540/vp/32944103#32944103>

Dr. Anthony Heaney, associate professor of endocrinology and neurosurgery, commented Sept. 30 on KPCC-89.3FM's "Air Talk with Larry Mantle" about a national marketing campaign claiming that high-fructose corn syrup is unfairly blamed for rising obesity.

"Is Corn Syrup Getting a Bum Rap?"

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/airtalk/2009/09/30/corn-syrup/>

Dr. David Heber, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, commented Sept. 30 in the Los Angeles Times about high-fructose corn syrup and obesity. In addition, he was quoted in the Sept. 28 Los Angeles Times about finding affordable nutritious foods.

"Let's Limit Our Intake of Corn-Syrup Ads"

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-lazarus30-2009sep30,0,6909971.column>

"Eating Well Needn't Be Expensive"

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-yourmoney28-2009sep28,0,908508.story>

David Hovda, professor of neurosurgery and director of the Brain Injury Research Center, was quoted Sept. 25 on CNN.com about a study showing that alcohol may protect the brain from a life-threatening injury during an accident.

"Alcohol May Protect the Brain during an Accident"

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/HEALTH/09/25/alcohol.brain.injury/>

Dr. Lee Hilborne, medical director of care coordination for UCLA Health System and professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, noted how laboratories play a key role in doctors' abilities to treat patients.

"Tanzania Moves to Build Laboratory Capacity"

[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/updates/africa/july-dec09/labs\\_09-15.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/updates/africa/july-dec09/labs_09-15.html)

Dr. Michael Johnson, associate clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology, commented Sept. 26 in an Associated Press TV report about an Arkansas woman who conceived a second child two weeks after becoming pregnant with her first baby.

Dr. Peter Katona, associate clinical professor of infectious diseases, commented Sept. 26 in the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review about research showing that bed rest is beneficial for those who are ill with the flu. The story originally appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

"Rest is Best Way to Fight Flu, Even for Fitness Buffs"

[http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/lifestyles/health/s\\_644466.html](http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/lifestyles/health/s_644466.html)

Lynn Kessler, a neurology staff research associate, was quoted in reports by the Daily News, Univision, KNBC-Channel 4 and KABC-Channel 7 about a Sept. 24 protest at UCLA against budget cuts, furloughs and tuition increases.

"UCLA Students and Faculty Protesting Furloughs, Layoffs and Tuition Hikes Today"

[http://www.dailynews.com/search/ci\\_13409826?IADID=Search-www.dailynews.com-www.dailynews.com](http://www.dailynews.com/search/ci_13409826?IADID=Search-www.dailynews.com-www.dailynews.com)

"UCLA Students Protest Budget Cuts"

<http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local-beat/UCLA-Students-Protest-Budget-Cuts-61163792.html>

"UC Students, Faculty Walk Out of Class"

[http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los\\_angeles&id=7032131](http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los_angeles&id=7032131)

Gerald Kominski, associate director of the Center for Health Policy Research in the School of Public Health, was quoted in the Sept. 29 Daily Breeze about healthcare reform.

"Health Care Reform Efforts Have History of False Starts and Failure"

[http://www.dailybreeze.com/ci\\_13445658](http://www.dailybreeze.com/ci_13445658)

Dr. James McCracken, Joseph Campbell professor of child psychiatry and director of child and adolescent psychiatry at the Semel Institute and Resnick Psychiatric Hospital, commented in a Sept. 27 story in the Daily Beast.com about protocols for treating seizures in autistic children.

"Travolta's Scientology Turning Point?"

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/blogs-and-stories/2009-09-27/travoltas-scientology-turning-point/?cid=hp:beastoriginalsR2>

Dr. Bruce Ovbiagele, associate professor of neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of the Olive View–UCLA stroke program, was interviewed in the October issue of ACP Internists about how stroke physicians can collaborate with primary care physicians to maintain patient care following a stroke.

“Collaboration Key to Post-Stroke Follow Up”

<http://www.acpinternist.org/archives/2009/10/stroke.htm>

Dr. Tom Rosenthal, UCLA Health System’s chief medical officer, was quoted in the Oct. 1 Payers & Providers California edition about the rise in surgical errors noted by the California Department of Public Health.

“Penalties for Surgical Errors on Rise”

<http://docs.google.com/fileview?id=0B4aqiAmJ6vAWM2Y4ZTU1ZWYtNDA5NC00ODAwLWJmMjAtN2M0ZmE0ODVINTNh&hl=en>

Dr. Neil Silverman, UCLA clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was quoted in an Oct. 1 Associated Press article about the importance of flu shots for pregnant women.

“Flu Shot Very Important for Pregnant Women”

[http://www.sgvtribune.com/ci\\_13457508](http://www.sgvtribune.com/ci_13457508)

Dr. Paul Terasaki, professor emeritus at the David Geffen School of Medicine, was quoted Sept. 27 in a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review article about the failure of doctors at dialysis clinics to inform patients about kidney transplantation.

“Many on Debilitating Dialysis Not Told About Transplantation Option”

[http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s\\_645177.html](http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s_645177.html)

Dr. Dennis Woo, former chair of pediatrics at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted in the October edition of LA Parent magazine about the use of anti-viral medications for the H1N1 virus.

“The Flu & You”

<http://www.flashedition.com/publication/?i=22965&p>

Dr. Otto Yang, professor of infectious diseases, commented Sept. 24 on KABC-Channel 7, Sept. 25 in the Los Angeles Times, and Sept. 26 on KNBC-Channel 4 about research finding that a combination of HIV drugs offers modest protection against HIV infection.

“Scientists Shocked by AIDS Vaccine Trials”

<http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/health&id=7031873>

“HIV Vaccine Feat Leaves more Questions than Answers”

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-sci-aids-vaccine25-2009sep25,0,2090411.story>

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