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L.A. Times Magazine Spotlights Medical Innovators

Los Angeles Times Magazine published an Oct. 4 online edition about innovative medical research in Southern California that profiled Leonard Rome, senior associate dean of research and associate director of the California NanoSystems Institute at UCLA; Dr. Michael Phelps, Norton Simon Professor and chair of molecular and medical pharmacology; Dr. Emeran Mayer, professor of medicine, digestive diseases and physiology; Susan Smalley, professor-in-residence of psychiatry and founding director of the Mindful Awareness Research Center at the Semel Institute; and Dr. Timothy Miller, chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery. Each faculty member was quoted. Another piece, called “Quantum Leaps,” highlighted UCLA clinical trials for stroke, multiple sclerosis, cholesterol, HIV and breast health. “The California Cure”


“The Gene Stalker: Dr. Dennis J. Slamon”


“Dr. Emeran Mayer: Second Brain”


“Small is Beautiful: Dr. Leonard Rome”
Neurosurgery Department's Visionary Ball Draws Headlines

Dr. Neil Martin, chair of neurosurgery, was featured Oct. 2 on Extra's “LifeChangers” show to discuss the purpose and success of the 2009 Neurosurgery Ball, held Oct. 1 at the Beverly Wilshire Four Seasons hotel. Photos of the event appeared Oct. 2 on several websites, including life.com. Honoree Jim Carrey also was featured in an Oct. 6 article about the event in Examiner.com.

“Extra: UCLA Visionary Ball”

“Jim Carrey Honored with the Rodney Respect Award”

“UCLA's 2009 Visionary Ball”
http://www.life.com/image/91318131

Oprah Chronicles the Life of Schizophrenic Child

The Oct. 6 Oprah Winfrey Show told the story of a seven-year-old patient diagnosed with schizophrenia and being treated at the Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital. Dr. Mark DeAntonio, director of UCLA’s Adolescent Inpatient Service, was interviewed. The Oct. 6 Los Angeles Times health blog also cited the program.

“The 7-Year-Old-Schizophrenic”
http://www.oprah.com/article/oprahshow/20090828-tows-jani-schizophrenic

“Oprah Interviews Jani Schofield”

NPR-Affiliate Examines Recession's Impact on Healthcare

KPPC 89.3FM reported Oct. 7 on the recession’s impact on California’s healthcare system. Dr. David Feinberg, CEO and associate vice chancellor of the UCLA Hospital System, commented on the rise in uninsured patients and resulting strain on emergency rooms and the healthcare system. He was also featured in a Sept. 28 Los Angeles Business Journal health reform roundtable.

“Budget Cuts, More Uninsured Strain CA’s Health Care System”

Health Wires Investigate Ear Infections' Link to Air Quality

WebMD reported Oct. 7 and Ivanhoe News reported Oct. 8 on a study by Dr. Nina Shapiro, associate professor of pediatric otolaryngology and director of the pediatric ear, nose, and throat program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, finding a drop in ear infections in children due to improved air quality.

“Air Quality Up, Ear Infections Down”

“Clean Air Means Fewer Ear Infections”
http://www.ivanhoe.com/channels/p_channelstory.cfm?storyid=22576

Wall Street Journal Previews Heart Transplant Patient's Ironman Race

The Oct. 7 Wall Street Journal profiled Kyle Garlett, a UCLA heart transplant recipient, who will compete this weekend in the 2009 Ironman World Championship.
“Heart Transplant Can’t Stop One Iron Man”
http://online.wsj.com/article/SB100014240527487032980045744573139022246976.html

HealthDay Reports on Need for Stroke Prevention
HealthDay News on Oct. 2 and Medical News Today on Oct. 5 reported on a Lancet Neurology study co-authored by 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. The research looked at the need for routine stroke-prevention therapies in the elderly. HealthDay’s report also appeared in Modern Medicine on Oct. 8.
“More Elderly Might Benefit From Stroke Treatment”

“Very Elderly Age Group: Need for Routine Stroke Prevention Therapies and Research in Epilepsy”
http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/166181.php#

Reuters Contemplates Yoga and Dowager’s Hump
Reuters Health reported Oct. 2 on research led by Dr. Gail Greendale, professor of geriatrics, finding that upper spine curvature decreased about five percent in elderly people who practiced yoga for six months. The findings were published in the September issue of the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.
“Yoga May Decrease Age-related Dowager’s Hump”
http://abcnews.go.com/Health/WireStory?id=8737548&page=1

Canadian News Identifies Tips to Ease Kids’ Fear of Injections
Canada.com reported Oct. 7 on tips that parents can use to alleviate their children’s fear and pain about getting a shot. Dr. Lonnie Zeltzer, director of the Pediatric Pain Program at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, was quoted.
“The Truth about Needles”
http://www.canada.com/health/truth+a bout+needles/2078222/story.html#

Local Paper Lauds Award-winning Cardiologist
The Oct. 5 online edition of Westside Today highlighted Dr. Jesus Araujo, director of environmental cardiology and assistant professor of medicine, and his receipt of a 2009 Outstanding New Environmental Scientist award from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to establish a program that will study air pollution’s impact on the heart.
“Dr. Jesus Araujo Gets to the Heart of Environmental Matters”
http://www.westsidetoday.com/n1688/dr-jesus-araujo-gets.html

Geriatrician Pens Column to Promote Breast Cancer Awareness
Dr. Lucia Dattoma, staff geriatrician at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, wrote a column about breast cancer that was published in the Oct. 8 Santa Monica Mirror.
http://www.smmirror.com/MainPages/DisplayArticleDetails.asp?eid=11077

BRIEFS
An Oct. 6 Los Angeles Times op-ed arguing for a state tax on sodas and other sugar-sweetened beverages to raise revenues to pay for healthcare cited research by the Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health and the California Center for Public Health Advocacy. The study provides the first scientific evidence of a link between soda consumption and obesity.
“The Soda Tax Solution”
http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/la-oe-brownell6-2009oct06,0,4876212.story

QUOTABLES
Dr. Roy Altman, professor of medicine in the division of rheumatology and arthritis, commented Oct. 5 in the Los Angeles Times and Sept. 29 in USA Today about over-the-counter creams that claim to ease arthritis pain.
“Study: Popular Supplements Ineffective Against Arthritis”

“Arthritis Creams are Probably Better than Goat Tears”
http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-skeptic5-2009oct05,0,4881983.story?track=rss

Dr. Ravi Dave, staff cardiologist at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital and associate professor of medicine, commented in an Oct. 6 KCBS-Channel 2 report about Elizabeth Taylor’s procedure to repair a leaking heart valve.
“Liz Taylor Tweets about Heart Procedure”

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented in an Oct. 7 HealthDay News article about a study suggesting that fish consumption does not protect against heart failure.
“Study Finds Fish Won't Prevent Heart Failure”
http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=631467

Dominick Frosch, assistant professor of general internal medicine and health services research, was quoted Oct. 4 by HealthDay News about pharmaceutical industry advertising on television.
“As TV Drug Ads Increase, So Do Concerns”
http://www.ksby.com/global/story.asp?s=11254130&ClientType#

Andrew Fuligni, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute was quoted in the Oct. 7 Albuquerque Journal about a study examining Latinos’ views on higher education.

Fernando Gómez-Pinilla, professor of neurosurgery, was quoted Oct. 7 by Associated Press about a military report finding that pilots who ate a high-carb diet had the quickest response times and made fewer mistakes when flying in tricky cloud conditions.
“Hold the Mayo? Not When it Comes to Astute Pilots”
http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20091006/ap_on_bi_ge/us_flying_on_fat

Alison Grimes, manager of the UCLA Audiology Clinic and assistant clinical professor of head and neck surgery, commented Oct. 6 in a WebMD story about a study finding that the noise from riding in a convertible may lead to hearing loss. The story also appeared on CBS News.com.
“Convertibles Hazardous to Your Hearing?”

Dr. Gregory Moran, professor of emergency medicine and infectious diseases at Olive-View UCLA Medical Center, commented Oct. 7 in a Medscape article on a study reporting difficulty in recognizing flu symptoms in children during a pandemic flu drill.
“Physicians Fail to Recognize Symptoms in Nearly Half of Children in Flu Pandemic Drill”

Dr. Gary Small, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Center on Aging, commented Oct. 5 in USA Today about iPhone applications. Psychology Today also posted Small’s latest blog article on Oct. 4 about how the rapid pace of information impacts the brain and cognitive function.
“Are You Addicted to Apple iPhone’s Ubiquitous Apps?”
"Brains on Overdrive"

Dr. Rod Tung, assistant professor of cardiology, commented Oct. 6 on KABC-Channel 7 about the type of heart valve procedure actress Elizabeth Taylor tweeted that she will be receiving.
“Taylor Tweets about Heart Procedure”
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