



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT**

**For the week of Oct. 5-11, 2012**

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### **Sleeping Brain Study Garner International Coverage**

A study led by Mayank R. Mehta, professor of neurophysics in UCLA's departments of neurology, neurobiology, and physics and astronomy, spotlighting the role of a brain region called the entorhinal cortex in sleep-time memory consolidation was highlighted Oct. 7 by [Health Medicine Network](#), [My Science](#), [Drugs.com](#), [Kurzweil](#), [PsyPost](#), [Neuroscience News](#), [BioScholar](#), [Health Day](#), [The Atlantic](#), [Scope](#), [Science Blog](#), [Epoch Times](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Health Day](#), [Medical News Today](#), [Live Science](#) and [Medical Daily](#) and Oct. 8 by Iran's [FARS News Agency](#), [Business Standard](#), [Human Health & Science](#), [Asian News International](#), [Laboratory Equipment](#), [Indo-Asian News Service](#), [Daily Pioneer](#), [Times of India](#), [Eurasia Review](#), [Science Codex](#), [TG Daily](#), [KCBS-TV](#) and more than 50 other TV news outlets nationwide. The study also was highlighted Oct. 9 by the [Times of Oman](#), [e Health News](#) and the [Hindustan Times](#) and Oct. 10 by the [Huffington Post](#), [ABC15.com](#) and the [Free Press Journal](#).

### **NICU Nurses and Babies Reunite**

The [Los Angeles Daily News](#) reported Oct. 7 and the [Santa Monica Mirror](#) reported Oct. 10 on a reunion between UCLA nurses and those they cared for as infants in the neonatal intensive care units at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Shohreh Samimi, director of the NICU at Mattel Children's Hospital, and nurses Bessie Ang, Joyce Keeler and Nancy Kearsley, were quoted. The Daily News story also ran in the [Inland Valley Daily Bulletin](#) and [Mercury News](#).

### **Bloomberg Profiles Viral Pimple-Fighter**

[Bloomberg News](#) reported Oct 9 on a UCLA/University of Pittsburgh study that used genetic sequencing to identify 11 new viruses with the potential to kill the out-of-control bacteria that leads to intense acne breakouts. First author Laura Marinelli, a postdoctoral researcher in dermatology, was quoted. The story was syndicated by BusinessWeek and the San Francisco Chronicle.

### **TIME, L.A. Times Spotlight UCLA Stem-Cell Study on Vision**

[TIME](#) magazine on Oct. 8 and the [Los Angeles Times](#) on Oct. 9 cited a UCLA clinical trial testing whether the implantation of retinal cells derived from embryonic stem cells into the eyes of two women suffering from macular degeneration helped restore their vision in their coverage of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine awarded to two regenerative medicine researchers. Principal investigator Dr. Steven Schwartz, Ahmanson Professor of Ophthalmology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and chief of the retina division at the Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA, was quoted.

### **Blog Casts Grateful Gaze at Ophthalmologist**

Dr. Joseph Demer, chief of pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus at the Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA, was featured Oct. 10 in a [Life Goes Strong](#) blog by a grateful mother who was advised by three previous experts that her young daughter needed surgery to correct her crossed eyes. Demer corrected the child's condition by fitting her with glasses instead.

### **TV News Outlets Nationwide Highlight "Bubble Baby" Study**

[KPHO-TV](#) (Phoenix) reported Oct. 7 on a study led by Dr. Donald Kohn, professor of pediatrics and microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics in Life Sciences and a member of the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at UCLA, demonstrating that a combination of chemotherapy and gene therapy may help doctors treat children with "bubble boy" disease, in which the body cannot successfully fight off germs. Kohn was interviewed. More than 90 other CBS affiliates nationwide also reported on the story.

### **India Newspaper Reports that Surgery Trumps Drugs for Intractable Epilepsy**

The Oct. 6 [Times of India](#) reported on a study led by Dr. Jerome Engel, professor of neurology and neurobiology, and director of the UCLA Seizure Disorder Center, showing that for people with drug-resistant epilepsy, early surgical intervention and antiepileptic drugs stop seizures, improves quality of life, and helps avoid disability.

### **Sex Addiction Criteria Noted by Online Media**

Rory Reid, an assistant professor and research psychologist in the department of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in the Oct. 10 [MyHealthNewsDaily.com](#), [EmaxHealth.com](#), and [FoxNews.com](#)

about a study he led to define the criteria for sex addiction that may be included in the forthcoming revised Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, the so-called “bible” of mental conditions.

#### **Local NPR Station Reports on Grant to Battle Obesity**

[KPCC-89.3](#) reported Oct. 8 about a \$20 million grant by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) awarded to the Fielding School of Public Health to battle obesity in minority neighborhoods. The aim is to make it easier for people to drop sedentary habits and poor diets and embrace healthy living. Dr. Antronette Yancey, professor of health services, was referenced for her development of “Instant Recess,” a strategy designed to bring 10-minute dance and sports-themed exercise breaks into the daily routine at work, in the classroom or even at Sunday church services.

#### **Eye Trade Covers Research Linking Cataract Surgery to Less Falls**

Ophthalmology Today ran a front-page Sept. 15 story on a study by Dr. Anne Coleman, UCLA’s Fran and Ray Stark Foundation Professor of Ophthalmology at the David Geffen School of Medicine and director of the Center for Eye Epidemiology at the Jules Stein Eye Institute. Published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, her research found that elderly people who get cataract surgery for poor vision suffer significantly less falls and hip fractures than seniors who don’t undergo the procedure. A different version of the story appeared Aug. 15 in the publication’s [online](#) edition.

#### **Pediatrician Offers Primer on Treating Colds in Kids**

Dr. Tanya Altmann, clinical assistant professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, was interviewed Oct. 11 on the [NBC Today Show](#) to discuss which medicines are best for treating kids’ colds.

#### **Nanotechnology Website Spotlights Young Philanthropist’s Donation**

[AzoNano](#) reported Oct. 9 on a donation presented by 14-year-old Cameron Cohen to Dr. Noah Federman, assistant professor of pediatric hematology–oncology and director of the pediatric bone and soft tissue sarcoma program at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, to support his research that focuses on using targeted nanoparticles to treat pediatric sarcomas. Cohen’s \$7,500 donation was a combination of proceeds from the sales of two apps that he created, along with a contribution from his family.

#### **Magazine Covers Brain Fitness Program**

[Saga Magazine](#), a U.K. magazine, reported Aug. 13 on a study demonstrating that use of a computerized brain fitness program may be beneficial for improving memory and language skills in seniors. Study author Dr. Karen Miller, associate clinical professor at the Semel Institute, was quoted.

#### **KTLA Walks for Kidney Disease Awareness**

[KTLA-Channel 5](#) reported Oct. 6 on the annual Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) fundraising walk, which included a nearly 100-strong UCLA team organized by Dr. Anjay Rastogi, medical director of the UCLA Living Kidney Donor Program and director of UCLA Dialysis Services. Rastogi commented.

#### **California Healthcare News Spotlights IMG Program**

[California Healthcare News](#) reported Oct. 9 on the International Medical Graduate (IMG) program, which prepares bi-lingual medical school graduates from Central and South America to pass their California medical licensing exams, compete for family medicine residency programs and commit to working in underserved communities for two or three years. Dr. Michelle Bholat, co-director of the IMG program and vice chair of the department of family medicine, was quoted.

#### **Reuters, WebMD Zero in on HIV/AIDS Disparities**

[Reuters](#) Oct. 10, and [WebMD](#) and [Science Codex](#) Oct 9 highlighted an Archives of Internal Medicine editorial by Dr. William Cunningham, professor of general internal medicine and health services research and of public health, about racial disparities in mortality rates for AIDS. The editorial accompanied a study finding that while overall death rates from AIDS have fallen dramatically, rates for less educated blacks remained the highest.

#### **Rafu Shimpo Covers Upcoming Fundraiser in Memory of Paramedic**

The Oct. 11 [Rafu Shimpo](#) and [Examiner.com](#) covered an upcoming fundraiser taking place on Oct. 14 to raise scholarship funds in memory of UCLA paramedic graduate Mitch Sekine. His mom will dish up her famous Japanese curry – a favorite dish she made at her former Northridge café “E&E” -- to help reach the goal of six more scholarships for students at Mitch’s alma mater, the UCLA Paramedic Education Program, part of the UCLA Center for Prehospital Care.

### **Newspaper Notes Drawbacks of All-Nighters and Cramming**

Andrew J. Fuligni, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in an Oct. 10 [Scripps Howard News Service](#) about his study showing that cramming for tests and not sleeping enough had a negative effect on high school students' academic performance.

### **Washington Post Explains Food Product Placement and Obesity**

Susan Babey, project director at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured in the Oct. 11 [Washington Post](#) regarding her research suggesting that the prominent placement of unhealthy food items in stores contributes to chronic health problems like obesity.

### **BRIEFS**

The Oct. 6 Beverly Hills [Patch](#) highlighted a fundraising luncheon to combat Parkinson’s disease, with part of the proceeds going to UCLA Health System.

### **QUOTABLES**

Carrie Bearden, associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an Oct. 9 [Science Codex](#) article about new research on schizophrenia.

Dr. John DiFiori, professor of family medicine and chief of the division of sports medicine, commented Oct. 9 in an [ESPN](#) report about a UCLA football player who quit the team due to repeated concussions.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented in the October [Hospitalist Magazine](#) regarding advice in helping hospitalists care for heart-failure patients. He was also quoted in a [second article](#) in the magazine on the importance of scheduling follow-up appointments for heart failure patients.

Dr. Timothy Fong, associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, and director of the UCLA Addiction Medicine Clinic, was quoted in the Oct. 5 [Phnom Penh Post](#) (Cambodia) article about the stigma associated with gambling addiction.

Dr. Daniel Furst, professor of rheumatology, commented Oct. 10 in a [Family Practice News](#) article about arthritis.

Dr. Kevin Ghassemi, clinical programs director for the UCLA Center for Esophageal Disorders, commented Aug. 16 on the website [Take Part](#) about ways to lessen nighttime heartburn.

Dr. Michael Irwin, professor of psychiatry and director of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology at the Semel Institute, was quoted in the Oct. 9 [SFGate.com](#) about the negative effects loss of sleep can have on proinflammatory cytokines, a type of protein that some scientists say is an essential link between sleep and the immune system.

Gerald Kominski, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and a professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in the Oct. 9 [Los Angeles Times](#) about close ties between health insurer Blue Shield and labor unions. Separately, Kominski was quoted in an Oct. 9 [Canadian Medical Association Journal](#) article about problems facing Medicare in the U.S.

Dr. V. Raman Muthusamy, associate clinical professor of medicine, director of interventional endoscopy, and endoscopy director of the UCLA Center for Esophageal Disorders, commented in the November issue of Vegetarian Times about ways to alleviate nighttime GERD, including using wedge pillows that raise the head and upper torso to help keep the acid down.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, commented Aug. 9 on the website [Take Part](#) regarding the impact of multi-tasking on the brain.

Dr. Antronette Yancey, a professor of Health Services in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in the Oct. 6 [US News & World Report](#) about ways we can break our sedentary habits for better health.

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