



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Oct. 7 - 13, 2011**

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Channel 7 Examines 'Seasickness Syndrome'

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Vitamin D's Role in Fighting T.B. Garners Wide Coverage

[HealthDay News](#), [Agence France Press](#), [Infection Control Today](#), [EMax Health](#), [Silicon India](#), [Insciences](#), [KABC-Channel 7 \(Chicago\)](#), [Insider Medicine](#), [Science Daily](#) and [News Medical](#) reported Oct. 12 and [Asian News International](#), [Health 24](#), [Med News India](#), [Nutrition Horizon](#), [HealthCanal](#), [Independent Online \(U.K.\)](#) and [NutraIngredients](#) reported Oct. 13 on a study finding that the human immune system's ability to kill or block the bacteria causing tuberculosis depends on sufficient levels of Vitamin D. The finding could lead to a new treatment pathway. Dr. Robert Modlin, chief and Klein Professor of Dermatology, and distinguished professor of medicine and microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics, was quoted. The Oct. 12 online edition of [Science Translational Medicine](#) published the research. The HealthDay story was syndicated by [Newsday](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#) and [iVillage Entertainment](#). The AFP story was syndicated by the [New York Daily News](#), [Channel News Asia](#), [France 24 International News](#), [Khaleej Times](#), [MSN Philippines News](#), [Doctor's Lounge](#) and [Sknvibes](#).

Media Examine Bacteria's Link to Pancreatic Cancer

[ABC News](#), [WebMD](#), [Irish Independent](#), [HealthDay News](#), [MSNBC](#), [ABC News Radio](#), [Yorkshire Post](#) and [Science Daily](#) reported Oct. 12 and [New Scientist](#), [Daily Mail](#), [Daily Mirror](#), [French Tribune](#), [Bahrain News Agency](#), [Drug Discovery and Development](#), [WHEC Channel 10 \(New York\)](#), [Sky News \(U.K.\)](#), [Health 777](#), and [LabMate](#) reported Oct. 13 on a study identifying bacterial variations in the saliva of pancreatic-cancer patients compared to healthy subjects, suggesting a new biomarker to diagnose and track the disease. The research was led by Dr. James Farrell, associate clinical professor of digestive diseases and director of the Pancreatic Diseases Program at UCLA; and Dr. David Wong, Felix and Mildred Yip Professor of Dentistry, associate dean of research at the School of Dentistry and director of the UCLA Dental Research Institute. The journal [Gut](#) published the findings in its Oct. 13 online edition. The HealthDay report was syndicated by [Yahoo News](#), [NewsDay](#), [Fox News](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), and [iVillage Entertainment](#). The ABC News Radio story aired on [WTMA-1250 AM \(South Carolina\)](#) and [KGO-810 AM](#) and [KNSS-1330 AM \(Kansas\)](#).

Auction Benefitting Operation Mend Draws Press Interest

[Discovery's Velocity Network](#) aired an Oct. 7 live broadcast of the Mecum Auto Auction in Dallas, where a customized Camaro was sold for \$333,000 to benefit UCLA's Operation Mend program. Additional auction donations boosted the total to \$366,000. The car auction was also covered by The Dallas Morning News on Oct. 5; [KTVT-Channel 11](#) and other local Dallas affiliates, [WBAP 96.7 FM/820 AM \(TX\)](#) on Oct. 7; and [The Examiner](#), [Autoevolution](#) and [GT Spirit](#) on Oct. 13. Ron Katz, founder of Operation Mend and a hospital board member, was interviewed by [WBAP](#).

Ban on Teens in Tanning Beds Attracts Headlines

[KNBC-Channel 4](#), [KTLA-Channel 5](#), [KTTV-Channel 11](#), [KSCI-Channel 18](#), [KCOP-Channel 13](#), the [Daily Breeze](#) and [KABC-790 AM](#) covered a Sept. 14 press conference supporting a bill, now signed into law, banning those under age 18 from using tanning salons. Dr. Jenny Kim, associate professor of clinical dermatology, spoke at the news conference.

http://dist28.casen.govoffice.com/index.asp?Type=B_PR&SEC=%7B7EBFC133-9C59-4ADA-BF39-C54B7D78773D%7D&DE=%7B2149C7ED-7D95-4C39-9E3F-873EF7A40619%7D

Hollywood Today Covers Digestive Diseases Benefit

An Oct. 12 article and photo in [Hollywood Today](#) highlighted a special performance of the "Red Violin" to support the Division of Digestive Diseases. Dr. Gary Gitnick, division chief, and Dr. Eric Esrailian, division vice-chief, presented at the event, held at the home of entrepreneur and philanthropist Paula Kent Meehan and co-hosted by philanthropists Barbara Davis and Candy Spelling.

Daily News, KPCC Explore Doctors' Confidence Gap

Arturo Vargas-Bustamante, assistant professor of health services at the School of Public Health, was featured Oct. 10 in the Los Angeles [Daily News](#) and in a [KCBS-106.9 FM \(San Francisco\)](#) live interview; and Oct. 11 on a [KPCC-89.3 FM](#) website and [Examiner.com](#) article. He discussed his study finding that

doctors with primarily Latino patients are less likely to believe they can provide high-quality care than doctors who treat mostly white patients.

French Paper Warns of TV's Dangers for Kids

Frederick Zimmerman, chair of health services at the School of Public Health, was featured Oct. 7 in a Q&A on France's [Le Monde](#) newspaper on how excessive television viewing by younger children can contribute to obesity and developmental difficulties.

Channel 7 Examines 'Seasickness Syndrome'

Dr. Yoon-Hee Cha, assistant professor of neurology, was featured in an Oct. 12 [KABC-Channel 7](#) report about *mal de débarquement* syndrome, an uncommon and potentially debilitating disorder that leaves sufferers feeling off balance and unable to walk correctly.

TIME Tracks Teens' Tiffs at Home, School

Andrew Fuligni, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured Oct. 8 in [ScienceDaily](#) and Oct. 10 in [Time.com](#) on his study finding that teens' arguments with friends at school tend to spill over and cause arguments at home, and vice versa.

Multiple Media Cover Trial Testimony

Multiple news outlets covered testimony by Dr. Nader Kamangar, professor of medicine, in the Conrad Murray trial. A sleep expert, Kamangar testified about Michael's Jackson's insomnia and the "egregious" violations of standards of medical care in Jackson's treatment. Oct. 13 coverage included [CBS News](#), [CNN](#), [Fox News](#), [KNBC-Channel 4](#), the Los Angeles [Times](#), [USA Today](#), and [Reuters](#), among others.

NPR-Affiliate Unravels Massacre in Seal Beach

Dr. John Sharp, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was interviewed Oct. 13 on KPCC-89.3 FM's "[AirTalk](#)" about the mass shooting in the town of Seal Beach.

HuffPo Highlights Peds Cardiologist as "Game Changer"

The Oct. 13 [Huffington Post](#) spotlighted Dr. Juan Alejos, professor of pediatric cardiology and director of the pediatric heart failure program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, as a nominee in its 2011 "Game Changers" series celebrating leaders that are changing the world. Readers can vote for Alejos on the site.

Brentwood Patch Showcases Neurosurgery Benefit

The Brentwood edition of [AOL's Patch](#) reported Oct. 9 on the UCLA Department of Neurosurgery's 2011 Visionary Ball, held Oct. 6 at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel. The star-studded evening honored Nobel Laureate Louis Ignarro, UCLA professor of molecular and medical pharmacology, among others. The story quoted Dr. Neil Martin, chair of neurosurgery; Dr. Gerald Levey, former vice chancellor of health sciences and dean of the David Geffen School of Medicine; and Dr. Nader Pouratian, assistant professor of neurosurgery. Dr. David Hovda, director of the UCLA Brain Injury Research Center, and Dr. Paul Crandall, professor emeritus of neurosurgery, were cited.

Examiner, HuffPo Link Pollution to Premie Births

Michelle Wilhelm, an assistant researcher in epidemiology at the School of Public Health, was featured in an Oct. 10 [Examiner](#) blog about a study she co-authored. Her group uncovered a higher rate of pre-term births among local women who were exposed to higher levels of traffic-related air pollution. Dr. Beate Ritz, professor of epidemiology, at the School of Public Health, was quoted Oct. 7 by [HuffingtonPost.com](#) on the same topic.

Online Media Explains Difference in Genders' Iron Levels

Dr. George Bartzokis, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured Oct. 6 in articles on [Examiner.com](#) and [MedIndia.com](#) about his research showing that women have less iron in their systems than men due to the loss of iron in blood during menstruation. The finding may explain why men are at greater risk for brain diseases like Parkinson's and Alzheimer's, which have been linked to high levels of iron.

Northwest Paper Covers Beating Heart Box

The [Wenatchee World](#) (WA) reported Oct. 11 on an experimental organ delivery system that delivers donor hearts in a warm and beating state. The device is being tested by UCLA's Heart Transplant Program. Dr. Abbas Ardehali, director of the program, was quoted. The article originally ran in the Los Angeles Times.

Blog Promotes Upcoming Basketball Fundraiser

The [Examiner](#) ran an Oct. 10 article on the fourth annual "Dribble for the Cure" hosted by the UCLA men's and women's basketball teams and the pediatric cancer research program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA.

Alumni Pub Addresses Technology's Effect on Communication

The University of Phoenix's Oct. alumni magazine [Phoenix Focus](#) featured an article on how technology may impact communication that extensively quoted Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center,

Tech Mag Highlights Memory Making

Mayank Mehta, associate professor in the departments of neurology and neurobiology, was featured Oct. 9 by [Gizmag.com](#) about his research investigating the mechanism behind learning and memory formation in the human brain.

Web News Sites Highlight New Screening Method

A new molecular screening method to find drugs that kill brain cancer stem cells was featured Oct. 10 on [Examiner.com](#) and [Science Daily](#); on Oct. 12 by [Medical News Today](#), and [Spire Healthcare](#); and on Oct. 13 by [HealthCanal.com](#). The approach was developed by Dr. Harley Kornblum, professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences and a researcher with the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

ER Physician's Column Offers Halloween Safety Tips

A column by Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, ran in the Oct. 7 [Santa Monica Mirror](#) offering tips for a healthy Halloween.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Karim Chamie, a postdoctoral fellow in urologic oncology and health services research, commented Oct. 7 in the [Los Angeles Times](#) on new recommendations for PSA screening for prostate cancer. Chamie also discussed the study Oct. 8 on the KTLA Morning News "Water Cooler" feature. The Times story also appeared in the [Sacramento Bee](#).

Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, medical director of the UCLA Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Program, was quoted in an Oct. 13 [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) story about organ donation.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted Oct. 10 by [Reuters](#) about research suggesting that smokers suffer from heart attacks years earlier than non-smokers. He also commented in an Oct. 13 [HealthDay](#) article on a CDC report showing that U.S. heart disease rates continue to fall.

David Hayes-Bautista, professor of general internal medicine and health services research, commented Oct. 10 in a KMX-Channel 34 report on a Los Angeles County plan to provide free healthcare.

Dr. David Heber, professor of medicine and public health and founding director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, commented Oct. 10 in the [Los Angeles Times](#) about research showing that dietary supplements may be linked to a slightly increased risk of death in older women.

Gerald Kominski, associate director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health, was quoted Oct. 9 by the [Los Angeles Times](#) about Los Angeles County's decision to expand its publicly funded health care services. The article cited the involvement of the center, which is evaluating the effectiveness of the county's new *Healthy Way LA* program.

Dr. Brian Koos, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was quoted Oct. 10 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) column about the accuracy of a medical procedure portrayed on the television show, "Hart of Dixie."

Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an Oct. 11 [Washington Post](#) column about using yoga as a therapy for cancer patients and their caregivers.

Dr. Michael Lu, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was quoted Oct. 10 and Oct. 12 on the web site of [KRMG-AM](#) (Tulsa, Okla.) and the [Tulsa World](#), respectively, in stories about a University of Oklahoma summit on maternal and child health.

David Miklowitz, professor of psychiatry and director of the child and adolescent mood disorders program at the Semel Institute, was quoted in an Oct. 10 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about diagnosing children with mental disorders.

Dr. Raman Sankar, professor and chief of pediatric neurology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented Oct. 12 in a [HealthDay](#) News article about brain development in babies born prematurely.

Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, was quoted Oct. 6 by [MSNBC](#) about how brain structure can determine how people remember events in their lives.

Steven Wallace, associate director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the School of Public Health, was quoted Oct. 13 by the [Sacramento Bee](#) about a center study finding that while 70 percent of Americans over the age of 65 will need help at some point with personal care, only 37 percent of adults over 40 anticipate needing such assistance.

Dr. Peter Whybrow, director of the Semel Institute and executive chair of psychiatry, was quoted in the November issue of [Vanity Fair](#) magazine about the biological basis for American's inability to self-regulate and instead to constantly acquire much more than we need.

Gail Wyatt, professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, was quoted in the Oct. 10 issue of *Jet* magazine in an article about women's sexuality.

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