



## **Special Note:**

The UC Office of the President is launching a new UC Health news Web site/e-newsletter at <http://universityofcalifornia.edu/sites/uhealth>. The site will spotlight health stories and updates from UCOP as well as health news and features from the UC medical centers and campuses. The goals are to inform and engage employees about UC Health, build awareness about the breadth and impact of the enterprise, and create a sense of shared pride. If you're interested in subscribing, please send your name and e-mail address to Alec Rosenberg, UCOP coordinator of health science communications, at [alec.rosenberg@ucop.edu](mailto:alec.rosenberg@ucop.edu).

## **UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT For the week of Oct. 9 - 15, 2009**

Note: Website links may expire without notice. Some sites require password registration. If you cannot access a story or would like to obtain a copy, please call 310.794.0777.

---

**Breast Tenderness' Link to Higher Cancer Risk Draws Headlines**

**Nature Explores How to Build a Smarter Brain**

**UPI, L.A. Times Report Good Air Quality Means Fewer Ear Infections**

**Wall Street Journal Examines how Single Cells Recognize Single Things**

**New York Times Covers Different Approach to Study Variations in Treatment, Cost, Outcomes**

**NBC Affiliates Explore Obesity's Link to Smaller Brains**

**CBS, A.P. Profile Organ Recipient's Athletic Quest**

**Community Paper Highlights Research Grant**

**Pasadena Paper Publishes Column by Infectious Disease Expert**

**Web Outlet Highlights Breast Cancer Study**

**Science Daily Cites Lymphoma Research**

## **BRIEFS**

## **QUOTABLES**

---

### **Breast Tenderness' Link to Higher Cancer Risk Draws Headlines**

Research led by Dr. Carolyn Crandall, professor of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that women who develop breast tenderness for the first time after starting combination hormone-replacement therapy are at elevated risk for developing breast cancer was covered Oct. 12 by Reuters, KCBS-Channel 2/KCAL-Channel 9, HealthDay and The Telegraph (U.K.), and Oct. 13 by the

Los Angeles Times, The Guardian (U.K.), Medscape Today and Physician's First Watch, among others. The Reuters report also appeared on U.S. News & World Report.com.

"For Women on HRT, Tenderness May be Warning Sign"

<http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSN12151041>

"Study: Risk of Cancer with Hormone Therapy"

<http://www.cbs2.com/video/?id=116431@kcbs.dayport.com>

"With Hormone Therapy, Tender Breasts May Signal Cancer Risk"

<http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=631848>

"Breast Tenderness a Warning Sign of Cancer Risk in Women on HRT"

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/besttreatments/2009/oct/13/breast-tenderness-a-warning-sign-of-cancer-risk-in-women>

### **Nature Explores How to Build a Smarter Brain**

Nature News published an Oct. 14 feature on Dr. Alcino Silva, professor of neurobiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, and his research in mice aiming to enhance how the brain works.

"Neuroscience: Small, Furry ... and Smart"

<http://www.nature.com/news/2009/091014/full/461862a.html>

### **UPI, L.A. Times Report Good Air Quality Means Fewer Ear Infections**

The Los Angeles Times on Oct. 12 and United Press International on Oct. 9 reported on research by Dr. Nina Shapiro, associate professor of head and neck surgery and director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, suggesting a link between breathing polluted air and ear infections.

"Take a Deep Breath -- More Bad News on Air Pollution"

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-closer12-2009oct12.0,911830.story>

"Better Air Linked to Fewer Ear Infections"

[http://www.upi.com/Health\\_News/2009/10/09/Better-air-linked-to-fewer-ear-infections/UPI-72791255067127/](http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2009/10/09/Better-air-linked-to-fewer-ear-infections/UPI-72791255067127/)

### **Wall Street Journal Examines how Single Cells Recognize Single Things**

Dr. Itzhak Fried, professor of neurosurgery and director of the Epilepsy Surgery Program, was featured in an Oct. 9 science column in the Wall Street Journal that discussed Fried's research into single cell memory recognition.

"A Neuron's Obsession Hints at Biology of Thought"

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB125503611739074321.html>

### **New York Times Covers Different Approach to Study Variations in Treatment, Cost, Outcomes**

A New York Times blog reported on Oct. 14 on a new study by researchers at six California medical centers, including Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, that examined variations in medical treatment, cost and patient outcomes between hospitals and found that at the six month point, mortality rates were lower for elderly Medicare heart failure patients hospitalized at centers that used more health care resources, compared with those at hospitals that used fewer resources. This finding suggests that more resource-intensive care may improve outcomes among certain patients with heart failure, the most frequent cause of hospitalization and death among Medicare beneficiaries. This finding would not have been identified with previously used methods, which only examine individuals who have died. Dr. Michael Ong, the study's lead investigator and an assistant professor in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, was quoted.

"California Hospital Study: Sometimes Spending More Actually Does Save Lives"

<http://prescriptions.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/10/14/california-hospital-study-sometimes-spending-more-actually-does-save-lives/>

### **NBC Affiliates Explore Obesity's Link to Smaller Brains**

Paul Thompson, professor of neurology and a member of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, was featured in an Oct. 15 news segment that ran on 60 NBC affiliates about his brain imaging research that found that parts of the brain involved in memory and planning are, on average, smaller in overweight and obese people.

“Obesity Linked to Alzheimer’s”

[http://www.wwlp.com/dpp/health/healthy\\_living/wwlp\\_nbc\\_health\\_obesity\\_linked\\_to\\_alzheimers\\_20091015919](http://www.wwlp.com/dpp/health/healthy_living/wwlp_nbc_health_obesity_linked_to_alzheimers_20091015919)

### **CBS, A.P. Profile Organ Recipient’s Athletic Quest**

CBS Evening News aired an Oct. 9 profile of a 38-year-old UCLA heart-transplant recipient who aimed to be the first organ-recipient to complete the Ironman competition on Kona. Associated Press reported Oct. 10 that he fell short of his goal after missing the cut-off in the race’s swim portion. Dr. Jon Kobashigawa, medical director of the heart transplant program at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, was interviewed by CBS.

“The American Spirit: Ironman First”

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/10/09/eveningnews/main5375250.shtml>

“Heart Transplant Triathlete Misses Ironman Cut-Off”

[http://www.mercurynews.com/california/ci\\_13534301#](http://www.mercurynews.com/california/ci_13534301#)

### **Community Paper Highlights Research Grant**

The Palisadian Post on Oct. 8 spotlighted Dr. Pinchas Cohen, professor of pediatrics and chief of endocrinology at the Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, who recently won a \$2 million transformative R01 award from the National Institutes of Health to fund his innovative research on mitochondrial dysfunction.

### **Pasadena Paper Publishes Column by Infectious Disease Expert**

The Pasadena Star News ran an Oct. 14 column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, on her experiences diagnosing and treating staph infections. The story also appeared in the San Bernardino Sun.

“Diagnosing, Treating Staph Aureus”

[http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/ci\\_13563778?source=emailClaire](http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/ci_13563778?source=emailClaire)

### **Web Outlet Highlights Breast Cancer Study**

Medical News Today reported Oct. 8 on a breast cancer study about Herceptin resistance by Dr. Sara Hurvitz, assistant professor of hematology/oncology and a researcher with UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

“Everolimus May Help Thwart Trastuzumab Resistance in Breast Cancer Patients”

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/166809.php>

### **Palisadian Post Spotlights Researcher’s Pontifical Appointment**

The Palisadian Post reported Oct. 8 on Pope Benedict XVI appointing Dr. Edward De Robertis to a lifetime term on the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. De Robertis is a professor of biological chemistry, the Norman Sprague Professor of Molecular Oncology and a researcher at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

### **Science Daily Cites Lymphoma Research**

Science Daily reported Oct. 10 on research by Dr. Michael Teitell, a professor of pathology and laboratory medicine and a researcher at UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

“B-Cell Lymphoma Protected By SPAK Silencing”

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/10/091010120627.htm>

## **BRIEFS**

The San Francisco Business Times noted Oct. 7 that the Integrated Healthcare Association rated UCLA Medical Group as one of California’s top-performing physician organizations for the fifth consecutive year. Rankings were based on clinical quality, patient experience and satisfaction, coordinated diabetes care, and the use of information technology to support safer care.

“IHA Names Top California Medical Groups on P4P”

<http://sanfrancisco.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/stories/2009/09/21/daily94.html>

A study by Dr. Mark Litwin, professor of urology, public health and health services and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was cited Oct. 15 in the London Times.

"Until Her Sickness Do Us Part: Why Men Leave Ill Partners"

[http://women.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life\\_and\\_style/women/relationships/article6875081.ece](http://women.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/women/relationships/article6875081.ece)

The Thousand Oaks Acorn on Oct. 15 highlighted an upcoming wellness seminar on reconstructive surgery for breast cancer patients with Dr. Jay Granzow, assistant professor of plastic surgery at UCLA.

"Wellness Session Addresses Reconstructive Surgery"

[http://www.toacorn.com/news/2009-10-15/Health\\_\(and\)\\_Wellness/Wellness\\_session\\_addresses\\_reconstructive\\_surgery.html](http://www.toacorn.com/news/2009-10-15/Health_(and)_Wellness/Wellness_session_addresses_reconstructive_surgery.html)

Caregiving.com ran a brief about the UCLA Center on Aging's second annual "UCLA Technology & Aging Conference," on Oct. 30 that will explore cutting-edge innovations affecting every aspect of senior life.

"UCLA Technology & Aging Conference Held Oct. 30"

<http://www.caregiving.com/2009/10/ucla-technology-aging-conference-will-be-held-october-30/>

The Oct. 11 Sacramento Bee cited a UCLA study finding that broccoli may protect against respiratory conditions like asthma.

"Nutrition Quiz"

<http://www.sacbee.com/296/story/2241354.html>

## QUOTABLES

Dr. David Baron, chief of staff at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted in the Oct. 10 Santa Monica Daily Press about the arrival of the H1N1 vaccine on the Westside.

"Swine Flu Vaccine Arrives, but Some Are Hesitant"

[http://www.smdp.com/Articles-c-2009-10-09-63258.113116\\_Swine\\_flu\\_vaccine\\_arrives\\_but\\_some\\_are\\_hesitant.html#print](http://www.smdp.com/Articles-c-2009-10-09-63258.113116_Swine_flu_vaccine_arrives_but_some_are_hesitant.html#print)

Christopher Colwell, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted Oct. 8 in Science News about new research on the brain's circadian clock.

"Circadian Clockwork Takes Unexpected Turns"

[http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/48177/title/Circadian\\_clockwork\\_takes\\_unexpected\\_turns](http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/48177/title/Circadian_clockwork_takes_unexpected_turns)

Dr. Henry Gill Cryer, professor and chief of trauma surgery at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was quoted in the Oct. 14 Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles Daily News and other news outlets on the condition of a UCLA student who was stabbed by a fellow student in a campus teaching lab last week.

"UCLA Student is Charged with Attempted Murder in Attack"

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-ucla-stabbing14-2009oct14,0,2850335.story>

"UCLA Student Pleads Not Guilty to Attempted Murder Charge"

[http://www.dailynews.com/crime/ci\\_13551567](http://www.dailynews.com/crime/ci_13551567)

Dr. Ravi Dave, staff cardiologist at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, commented Oct. 1 in WebMD about generic drugs to prevent heart attacks and strokes.

"Low-Cost Drugs Prevent Heart Attack, Stroke"

<http://www.webmd.com/heart-disease/news/20091001/low-cost-drugs-prevent-heart-attack-stroke>

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented in an Oct. 14 Heart.org article about the use of omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids as a possible heart-failure therapy.

"A Fish Tale with Merit: Omega-3 PUFAs Underrated for Heart Failure"

<http://www.theheart.org/article/1013007.do>

Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of cancer prevention and control research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, commented Oct. 14 in USA Today on a form of breast cancer called ductal carcinoma in situ.

"New Type of Breast Cancer, DCIS, Can Put Life on Hold"

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2009-10-11-new-breastcancer\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2009-10-11-new-breastcancer_N.htm)

Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, was quoted Oct. 9 in WebMD about H1N1, seasonal flu cases and the need for vaccination.

"Swine Flu Cases Rise; CDC Urges Vaccination"

<http://www.webmd.com/cold-and-flu/news/20091009/swine-flu-cases-rise-cdc-urges-vaccination>

Alison Grimes, manager of the audiology clinic at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and assistant clinical professor of head and neck surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented Oct. 8 in a CBS News.com story about how exposure to noise from riding in a convertible may lead to hearing loss. The story originally ran on WebMD.

"Convertibles Hazardous to Your Hearing?"

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/10/08/health/webmd/main5371917.shtml>

Marco Iacoboni, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation Lab at the Ahmanson-Lovelace Brain Mapping Center, was quoted Oct. 14 in the online Scientific American about people with "blindsight," who can only see on an unconscious level.

"Sight Unseen: People Blinded by Brain Damage Can Respond to Emotive Expressions"

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=emotional-contagion-blindsight-mimcry-imitation-visual-cortex>

Dr. Peter Katona, associate clinical professor of infectious diseases, commented Oct. 12 on Forbes.com about the efficacy of products to help with colds and flu.

"Cold/Flu Products: What Works, What Doesn't"

<http://www.forbes.com/2009/10/12/cold-flu-treatments-lifestyle-health-swine-flu-h1n1.html>

Dr. Jenny Kim, associate professor of dermatology, commented Oct. 14 in the New York Times about the growing popularity of nighttime skin-care products and treatments.

"Night Creams In Sync with the Body's Clock?"

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/15/fashion/15Skin.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/15/fashion/15Skin.html?_r=1)

Dr. Edward McCabe, professor of pediatrics and human genetics and co-director of the UCLA Center for Society and Genetics, commented in an Oct. 12 WCPN 90.3FM (Cleveland) report about the emerging field of personalized genetics testing.

"Personalized Data about Risk for Disease Now at Bargain Prices"

<http://www.wcpn.org/WCPN/news/28243/#>

Dr. Janet Pregler, clinical professor of medicine and director of the Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center, was quoted Oct. 12 in the Los Angeles Times about studies suggesting that not all overweight individuals are unhealthy. She was also quoted in a second Los Angeles Times article that day about how society views people who are obese.

"Do Extra Pounds Always Equal Extra Risk?"

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-fat-health12-2009oct12,0,1663814.story>

"Seeking Fat Acceptance"

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-he-fat-activists12-2009oct12,0,2666405.story>

Dr. Andrea Rapkin, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was quoted Oct. 13 in a People magazine story about Top Chef's Padma Lakshmi's pregnancy.

"INSIDE STORY: Padma Lakshmi's 'Miracle Pregnancy'"

<http://www.people.com/people/article/0,,20311973,00.html>

Jerome Siegel, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in the Oct. 24 edition of Science News about how the body controls when it does and doesn't sleep.

"Sleep Gone Awry"

[http://www.sciencenews.org/view/feature/id/48144/title/Sleep\\_Gone\\_Awry](http://www.sciencenews.org/view/feature/id/48144/title/Sleep_Gone_Awry)

Dr. Randolph Steadman, professor of clinical anesthesiology, commented Oct. 13 in an NPR "Morning Edition" story about the use of mannequins in medical education and training.  
"Arizona Training Hospital Uses Fake Patients"

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=113754707>

=====

UCLA's Health Sciences Media Relations office e-publishes this report weekly. For more information, please call Roxanne Moster, director of Health Sciences Media Relations, or Elaine Schmidt, senior media relations officer, at 310-794-0777. Our office also offers publicity for new research, medical breakthroughs, clinical trial recruitment, inspirational patient stories and more. To identify the appropriate public information officer for your department, visit [www.uclahealth.org/mediacontacts](http://www.uclahealth.org/mediacontacts)