



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Oct. 10-16, 2014**

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Media Focus on Ebola Preparations

Stem Cells Restore Some Vision to Blind Patients

Liver Aging Study Garners Widespread Coverage

Discovery of Heart's Repair Process Suggests New Treatment Strategy for Heart Attack

Health Disparities Found in Post-Tonsillectomy Complications

Media Report on Possible New Parkinson's Drug

Neurosurgeon Explains Rare Brain Disease to "The Doctors"

UCLA Awarded \$11 Million to Unravel Big Data

Telehealth Use Growing Amid Desire for Convenient, Affordable Healthcare Alternatives

How Doctors Talk with Parents about Vaccinations

Vivity Partnership Continues to Draw Media Coverage

ER Overcrowding Study Draws Interest

Another Report on Possible Alzheimer's Breakthrough

Science Websites Examine Link between Inflammation and Autism

Women's Health Magazine Notes that Life is All in the Details

California Healthline Highlights New Mental Health Center

Cosmo Offers Tips for a Less Stressful Life

Santa Monica Reminds Residents to Get Flu Shots

New Research Initiative for Adolescents with Autism Noted

Media Cover Article on Practice of Medicine

Managing Thyroid Disease in Children

Practical Information about Enterovirus D68

NICU Grads Reunite with Caregivers

Pioneering Gene Therapy for Bubble Baby Syndrome

Researcher Helps Women in 30's Recently Diagnosed with Breast Cancer Tell Family and Friends

BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

Media Focus on Ebola Preparations

Numerous media outlets reported on the steps being taken by Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center to handle potential Ebola patients and prevent infection among healthcare workers and other patients. Coverage included Oct. 13 reports by [City News Service](#), [Santa Monica Mirror](#), Univision, [KABC-Channel 7](#), [KCAL-Channel 9](#), [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KTLA-Channel 5](#), Telemundo, [KNBC-Channel 4](#), [Fox 11](#), KVEA-Channel 52 and KNX 1070AM; and an Oct. 14 [Wall Street Journal](#) article. Dr. Zachary Rubin, medical director of UCLA Clinical Epidemiology & Infection Prevention, and Dr. Lynn Ramirez, associate director of infection prevention and assistant professor of pediatric infectious diseases, were quoted. In addition, other UCLA experts commented in other reports about the disease:

- Dr. David Eisenman, associate professor of medicine and public health, commented Oct. 14 on [KCRW 89.9FM](#) and Oct. 15 on [CBSNews.com](#).
- Dr. Peter Katona, clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, was interviewed Oct. 10 on [The Tavis Smiley Show](#).
- Dr. Mark Morocco, clinical professor of emergency medicine, Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Oct. 12 in reports on [Fox 11](#) and Oct. 13 in the [Los Angeles Times](#).
- Dr. Anne W. Rimoin, associate professor in the department of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed Oct. 10 on [FOX Business](#), Oct. 11 on News, and Oct. 13 on [KCRW 89.9FM](#) and on [KTLA-Channel 5](#).
- Dr. Daniel Uslan, associate director of infection prevention, was quoted in an Oct. 12 [Los Angeles Times](#) article.

Stem Cells Restore Some Vision to Blind Patients

A UCLA study suggesting that embryonic stem-cell implantation may have improved the vision of some patients drew wide media coverage, including Oct. 15 stories in the [New York Times](#), [National Public Radio](#), [CNN](#), [Science](#), [HealthDay News](#), [Live Science](#), [MedPage Today](#), [Tech Times](#), [Doctor's Lounge](#), U.K.'s [Telegraph](#) and [The Guardian](#), and Ireland's [Press Association](#), among others. Lead researcher Dr. Steven Schwartz, chief of the retinal division at the Stein Eye Institute, was quoted. The findings were published in the Oct. 14 edition of [The Lancet](#).

Liver Aging Study Garners Widespread Coverage

[SciCasts](#), [Science World Report](#), [Health News Digest](#), [Medical Xpress](#) and [Science Daily](#) Oct. 10; [Latinos Health](#), [Business Standard](#), [Science Times](#), [Big News Network](#), [Zee News](#), [Counsel and Heal](#), [Asian News International](#), [New Kerala](#) and [New India](#) Oct. 11; [News-Medical](#), [Examiner.com](#), [NewsMaxHealth](#), [Voice of America](#), [Healio](#), [HealthDay News](#), [Alaska Native News](#), [Scrubs Report](#) and [Health24.com](#) Oct. 13; [Medical News Today](#), [Canada Journal](#), [Health Central](#), [Net Doctor](#), [HCP Live](#), [Maine News](#) and [Doctor's Lounge](#) Oct. 14; [Big News Network](#), [Health Canal](#), [Science Blog](#), [BioScience Technology](#) and [Diabetes Insider](#) Oct. 15; and the [Guardian](#) Oct. 16 reported on a study by Dr. Steve Horvath that found that obesity ages the liver. The [HealthDay](#) story also appeared in [U.S. News & World Report](#), [WebMD](#), [Medicine Net](#) and [Philly.com](#). Horvath is a professor of human genetics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a professor of biostatistics at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

Discovery of Heart's Repair Process Suggests New Treatment Strategy for Heart Attack

[Health Canal](#), [Science Codex](#) and [Examiner.com](#) Oct. 15; and [News-Medical](#) and [Economic Times](#) Oct. 16 covered a new study that found that some scar-forming cells in the heart that can occur after a heart attack have the ability to become cells that form blood vessels. The finding in mice could point the way toward a new strategy for treating people who have suffered a heart attack, because increasing the number of blood vessels in the heart boosts its ability to heal after injury. The UCLA team also found that a drug could enhance this phenomenon and improve the repair process. Senior author Dr. Arjun Deb, associate professor of medicine in the division of cardiology, the department of molecular, cell and developmental biology and a member of UCLA's Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research, was interviewed.

Health Disparities Found in Post-Tonsillectomy Complications

[News-Medical](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Health Canal](#), and [Latinos Health](#) Oct. 15 reported on a new study that found post-tonsillectomy complications are more likely in children from lower-income families, and black and Hispanic children were more likely to suffer from a complication than white children. The study's co-author Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and a professor of head and neck surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

Media Report on Possible New Parkinson's Drug

Dr. Marie-Francoise Chesselet, the Charles H. Markham Professor of Neurology and director of the UCLA Center for the Study of Parkinson's Disease, was featured widely in the media regarding her study finding that a drug called AT2101 that is being evaluated to treat an entirely different disorder helped slow the progression of Parkinson's disease in mice. Coverage included Oct. 8 in [Medical Xpress](#), [Science Codex](#), and [Examiner.com](#); and Oct. 9 in [Forbes](#), [ScienceBlog](#), [Scicasts.com](#), and [Zenopa.com](#).

Neurosurgeon Explains Rare Brain Disease to "The Doctors"

Dr. Neil Martin, chief of neurosurgery for the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, appeared Oct. 13 on CBS "[The Doctors](#)." He described moya moyo disease, a rare disorder in which the blood vessels supplying the brain grow so narrow that they can lead to stroke and sometimes death. He also commented on the case of a young woman with [Parry-Romberg Syndrome](#), in which half of her face continued to grow and fill out, while the other half appeared to be melting.

UCLA Awarded \$11 Million to Unravel Big Data

The National Institutes of Health's award of a four-year \$11 million grant to form a UCLA Center of Excellence for Big Data Computing was reported Oct. 9 by the [Los Angeles Times](#)' science blog, [City News Service](#), [PhysOrg](#) and [Campus Technology](#); and Oct. 10 by the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) and [Health Data Management](#). Peipei Ping, professor of physiology, medicine and informatics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, is the center's lead investigator.

Telehealth Use Growing Amid Desire for Convenient, Affordable Healthcare Alternatives

The Oct. 14 [iHealthBeat](#) featured an article on the growth of telehealth, the delivery of healthcare remotely with the use of telecommunications, and featured UCLA Health System's use of telemedicine for a wide range of specialties, including psychiatry, pediatrics, addiction medicine, cardiology and neurology. Peter Kung, director of strategic technologies for the UCLA Health System, was quoted.

How Doctors Talk with Parents about Vaccinations

[KPCC 89.3FM](#) featured Oct. 15 a story on how pediatricians approach the "vaccination talk" with parents who might be against vaccinating their children and focused on a recent workshop held at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA to help doctors practice answering their questions. Dr. Marshall Sachs, an associate professor of pediatrics, was quoted.

Vivity Partnership Continues to Draw Media Coverage

The [National Law Review](#) Oct. 13 covered the announcement last month that UCLA Health System and six other top hospital systems in Los Angeles and Orange counties have partnered with Anthem Blue Cross to offer [Anthem Blue Cross Vivity](#), an integrated managed health plan that will be offered to local employers. This partnership — the first in the nation between an insurer and competing hospital systems

— will help the medical centers enhance the health of all Anthem Blue Cross Vivity members and enable them to share financial risk and gain.

ER Overcrowding Study Draws Interest

Dr. Gerald Kominski, professor of health policy and management and director of the Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Oct. 15 in the [Los Angeles Times](#), [California Healthline](#), [HealthCanal](#) and the [Sierra Sun Times](#) about a new Center study regarding how emergency room overcrowding related to Medicaid expansion should be temporary.

Another Report on Possible Alzheimer’s Breakthrough

Dr. Dale Bredesen, the Augustus Rose Professor of Neurology and director of the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer’s Disease Research, was featured Oct. 7 by [Esquire.com](#) regarding his research showing that memory loss in patients with Alzheimer’s may be reversed, and improvement sustained, using a complex, 36-point therapeutic program that involves comprehensive changes in diet, brain stimulation, exercise, optimization of sleep, specific pharmaceuticals and vitamins, and multiple additional steps that affect brain chemistry.

Science Websites Examine Link between Inflammation and Autism

Dr. Harley Kornblum, professor of psychiatry and director of the Neural Stem Cell Research Center in the Semel Institute, was featured Oct. 9 by [Science Codex](#) Oct. 10 by [News-Medical](#), and Oct. 12 by [AutismDailyNewscast.com](#) regarding his study showing how, in pregnant mice, inflammation, a first line defense of the immune system, can trigger an excessive division of neural stem cells that can cause “overgrowth” in the offspring’s brain and, ultimately, autistic behavior.

Women’s Health Magazine Notes that Life is All in the Details

Dr. Judith Orloff, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, wrote a column for the November issue of Women’s Health magazine about how to control the details of your life.

California Healthline Highlights New Mental Health Center

Dr. Peter C. Whybrow, the Judson Braun Professor of Psychiatry and director of the Semel Institute, was featured in an Oct. 15 [California Healthline](#) article about the newly created Behavioral Health Center of Excellence at UCLA, which is designed to improve mental health in California, and will be located in the Semel Institute.

Cosmo Offers Tips for a Less Stressful Life

Diana Winston, director of mindfulness education at the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center, was featured Sept. 28 in a [Cosmopolitan.com](#) article about five ways to make your life less stressful.

Santa Monica Reminds Residents to Get Flu Shots

The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) reported Oct. 13 that UCLA Health will be sponsoring community flu-shot clinics in October and November to help protect residents during flu season. Dr. Denise Sur, chief of staff at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and director of the UCLA Family Medicine Residency, was quoted in the article.

New Research Initiative for Adolescents with Autism Noted

[News-Medical](#) Oct. 14 reported on a grant given to the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities to establish a national Health Care Transitions Research Network to address the health, family and social needs of adolescents and young adults with autism. Dr. Neal Halfon, professor of pediatrics, public health and public policy and director of the center, and Dr. Alice Kuo, associate director of the center and associate professor of internal medicine and pediatrics, were quoted.

Media Cover Article on Practice of Medicine

[HealthDay News](#) and [Medical Xpress](#) Oct. 16 covered an opinion article in the British Medical Journal discussing how intolerance of medical errors and uncertainty in medicine can drive a culture of overdiagnosis and overtreatment. The authors note that changing professional and public attitudes toward these issues may help change the culture. Authors Dr. Jerome Hoffman, professor emeritus of

medicine and Veterans Affairs/Robert Wood Johnson fellow Hemal Kanzaria were included in the coverage.

Managing Thyroid Disease in Children

[Contemporary Pediatrics](#) featured Oct. 15 an article about diagnosing and managing thyroid disease in children. Dr. Harvey Chiu, associate professor of pediatric endocrinology and director of the UCLA Pediatric Thyroid Program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted.

Practical Information about Enterovirus D68

The [KTLA-Channel 5 Morning News](#) Oct. 15 discussed what parents need to know about enterovirus D68 with Dr. Tanya Altmann, assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA.

NICU Grads Reunite with Caregivers

[KNBC-Channel 4](#) Oct. 12 spotlighted the 28th NICU Reunion that brought graduates of the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) and their families back to the UCLA campus for a party with the doctors, nurses and healthcare professionals that took care of them. The former patients were cared for in the NICU at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA or UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica.

Pioneering Gene Therapy for Bubble Baby Syndrome

[DNA Science Blog](#) October 9 highlighted research Dr. Donald Kohn, professor of molecular genetics and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research, on cutting-edge gene therapy for SCID-X1, better known as Bubble Baby disease.

Researcher Helps Women in 30's Recently Diagnosed with Breast Cancer Tell Family and Friends

[Today.com](#) Oct. 8 reported on how young women who were recently diagnosed with breast cancer found the strength to break the tragic news to relatives. Dr. Patricia Ganz, professor of medicine and public health and director of cancer prevention and control research, was quoted extensively.

BRIEFS

The Santa Monica Daily Press Oct. 11 published an article highlighting the Polish Film Festival's efforts to raise funds for the UCLA Breast Center in Santa Monica in memory of a longtime volunteer for the Polish Film Society, who received care at UCLA.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Hilary Godwin, professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in an Oct. 14 [KCBS-Channel 2](#) news report on soil samples near the Exide Corp. battery plant testing positive for lead contamination.

Dr. Daniel Kahn, an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was quoted in an Oct. 8 story in [The Huffington Post](#) about the benefits of providing epidurals early vs. later during birth.

Dr. Michael Ong, associate professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, was quoted Oct. 15 in an [LA 18](#) report about a study on the cost of smoking in California.

Dr. Dylan Roby, an assistant professor of health policy and management with the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed Oct. 9 on [Capital Public Radio](#) about how California ballot measure Prop 45 could affect the state's health insurance exchange.

Dr. Lekeisha Sumner, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in the October issue of WebMD magazine about tips to avoid depression.

Dr. Yifang Zhu, associate professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Oct. 9 on NBCNews.com regarding a study about the cumulative polluting effects of gas station spills.

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