



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Nov. 1-7, 2013**

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LAX Shooting and Treatment of Patients

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center's treatment of three individuals involved in a shooting at Los Angeles International Airport was highlighted Nov. 1 by the [Washington Post](#), [USA Today](#), [Bloomberg](#), [CNN](#), [NPR](#), the [Los Angeles Times](#), the [Los Angeles Daily News](#), [KNBC-Channel 4](#), [KABC-Channel 7](#), and hundreds of other outlets throughout the country. Dr. Lynne McCullough, medical director of the medical center's emergency department and clinical professor of medicine and emergency medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was interviewed and quoted in the coverage, including [KCAL-Channel 9](#). Dr. Mark Morocco, clinical professor of medicine and emergency medicine at the Geffen School of Medicine and the medical center's emergency department, was interviewed Nov. 1 on [KTTV-Channel 11](#) about the UCLA trauma unit's role in treating the injured. [Associated Press](#) and [Associated Press Video](#) Nov. 5 interviewed patient Brian Ludmer, who was recovering at the hospital from a bullet wound to the leg. The story was picked up by hundreds of news outlets across the U.S. NBC's "[Today Show](#)" also aired a segment Nov. 6 on Ludmer's ordeal.

Daily News Reports on Launch of New Ronald A. Katz Center for Collaborative Military Medicine

The [Los Angeles Daily News](#) reported Nov. 7 on a donation establishing the Ronald A. Katz Center for Collaborative Military Medicine at UCLA, the first university-based military medicine center on the West Coast, where faculty will partner with the armed forces to address the unique challenges of healing and caring for the nation's most critically wounded warriors. UCLA Chancellor Gene Block and Ronald A. Katz, a board member with the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center who founded Operation Mend, were quoted.

Operation Mend Helps Wounded Warriors

[Northwest Arkansas Online](#) Nov.3 highlighted UCLA's Operation Mend, a partnership between Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, Brooke Army Medical Center and the Veterans Affairs Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, that offers free reconstructive surgery and other medical care for U.S. military personnel severely wounded and disfigured during service. The [Army News Service](#) and [Defense Video and Imagery Distribution System](#) reported Nov. 5 on a visit by Gen. John F. Campbell, the Army's vice chief of staff, to the UCLA Operation Mend program. WEEU 830AM (Philadelphia) Nov. 5 featured an interview with Melanie Gideon, manager of Operation Mend, to discuss how the program helps wounded warriors.

Database of Brain Images for Chronic Pain

[Voice of America](#) reported Nov. 7 that the Gail and Gerald Oppenheimer Family Center for Neurobiology of Stress will serve as the main hub for a first-ever international database of brain images and other clinical information associated with chronic pain conditions. Dr. Emeran Mayer, professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases, physiology and psychiatry and executive director of the Gail and Gerald Oppenheimer Family Center for Neurobiology of Stress and Dr. Kirsten Tillisch, associate professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, were interviewed.

Media Reports on How Rats Find Food in a Virtual World

UCLA neurophysicist Dr. Mayank Mehta, a professor with joint appointments in the departments of neurology, physics and astronomy, was featured by multiple media for his study that built a virtual environment in order to study the behavior of rats while foraging for food. He examined how the brain processes environmental cues to find food, and whether different regions of the brain cooperate in this task. Coverage included Nov. 6 stories in [NeuroscienceNews.com](#), [redOrbit.com](#), [ScienceNewsline](#), [ScienceDaily](#), and [Before It's News](#); and Nov. 7 in [NeuroScienceStuff](#).

Liver Transplant Surgeon Discusses Acetaminophen Toxicity

Dr. Ronald Busuttill was featured Nov. 6 in a [Fox 11 News](#) piece on liver failure caused by acetaminophen overdose. Busuttill is the Distinguished Professor and Executive Chairman of the UCLA Department of Surgery and director of the Pflieger Liver Institute.

Body's Aging Clock Attracts Global Coverage

Research by Steve Horvath, 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, uncovered a biological clock embedded in our genomes that allowed him to invent a new tool able to accurately gauge the age of diverse human organs, tissues and cell types. The discovery was reported Nov. 5 by the U.K.'s [Mirror](#); Nov. 4 by [Business Insider](#) and [NIH Research Matters](#); and Oct. 22 by [Cosmos News](#).

Geriatrician's Column Serves Up Healthy Holiday Eating Tips

Dr. Sonja Rosen, medical director of the Geriatrics Unit at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and assistant clinical professor of medicine, authored a Nov. 1 [Santa Monica Mirror](#) column on how to keep from packing on the pounds this holiday season.

Baby Thrives Despite Unique Heart Condition

[La Opinión](#) Nov. 3, [Latinos Post](#) Nov.4, and [Noticiero Univision](#) Nov. 6 featured the story of a one-year-old boy born with congenital heart disease as well as a condition called heterotaxy in which his heart and stomach are on the wrong side and he has no spleen. His physician, Dr. Mark Sklansky, professor and chief of pediatric cardiology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was interviewed.

BBC Reports on Off-Label Drug Use

Dr. William Comanor, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed Nov. 5 by the BBC program "[Newsday](#)" about a multibillion-dollar lawsuit against Johnson & Johnson.

Science Blog Notes Faculty Award

Dr. John Froines, professor emeritus of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Oct. 30 in ScienceBlogs' "[The Pump Handle](#)" discussing Froines' award given by the internationally renowned Collegium Ramazzini for his lifetime of service defending public health.

Liver Specialist Discusses Hepatitis C Therapies

Dr. Sammy Saab, professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases and of surgery, was interviewed Nov. 7 in a [CurrentMedicine.tv](#) report on new therapies to combat hepatitis C.

Public Insurance Fills Health Coverage Gap

Shana Alex Lavarreda, director of health insurance studies at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Oct. 30 by [Science Codex](#) and California's [Sierra Sun Times](#). The articles discussed a study she headed showing that as large numbers of Californians lost job-based health coverage during the recent recession, an increasing number began receiving insurance through public programs.

OC Paper Highlights Persecutory Delusional Disorder

Dr. Stephen R. Marder, professor of psychiatry and director of the section on psychosis at the Semel Institute, was cited Oct. 23 in an [Orange County Register](#) article about a college student suffering from persecutory delusional disorder.

'Zoobiquity' Benefits People and Animals

The [Associated Press](#) and [News 12](#) (New Jersey) reported Nov. 1, [NBC News](#), [Huffington Post](#), and Massachusetts' [WBZ-1030 AM](#) reported Nov. 2, on the "Zoobiquity" conference, launched by Dr. Barbara Natterson-Horowitz, clinical professor of cardiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of imaging at the UCLA Cardiac Arrhythmia Center, at which physicians, veterinarians and researchers compare physical and mental disorders in animals and humans and examine the species-spanning nature of illness. Natterson-Horowitz was quoted. The event was held in New York City. The AP story was picked up by 400 print and 300 radio outlets internationally, including British Columbia's [Province](#), [Las Vegas Sun](#), [Herkimer Telegram](#), Miami's [El Nuevo Herald](#), Colorado Spring's [Gazette](#), and many more.

Study Finds Brain Damage in NFL Players

[ESPN](#), [Aljazeera America](#) and ABC's "Good Morning America" report Nov. 7 on a brain-imaging study in which UCLA researchers found elevated levels of the Alzheimer's disease-related tau protein in the brains of retired football players who had suffered concussions.

U.S. News Features Ob-Gyn

[U.S. News & World Report](#) Oct. 31 featured Dr. William Parker, a clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, in a story on how women should pick their Ob-Gyn.

Transforming Health Care

The November issue of [The Hospitalist](#) features a column by Dr. Nasim Afsar, associate chief medical officer for UCLA hospitals and executive director of quality and safety in the UCLA departments of medicine and neurosurgery, about the current state of the health care system in the U.S. and opportunities for reinventing the system.

Targeted Prostate Biopsy Highlighted by Louisiana TV Station

[KTBS-TV](#) (La.) reported Nov. 6 on a new targeted biopsy study by Dr. Leonard Marks, professor of urology and director of the UCLA Active Surveillance Program, that is helping to locate hard-to-find prostate cancers.

BRIEFS

The Nov. 1 Santa Monica Daily Press published a photo from UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica's Halloween trick-or-treating event. Surgical nurse Jennifer Harris was pictured giving a treat to a pediatric patient.

QUOTABLES

Nanci Flores, director of transplant services for the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, commented in the November issue of the [American Journal of Transplantation Report](#) in an article about strategies to cope with the increased volume and complexity of organ acceptance and avoiding burn-out among staff.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented in a Nov. 7 [HealthDay News](#) story about the FDA banning trans fats in foods. The story ran on the website for [U.S. News & World Report](#).

Dr. David Heber, professor at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, was quoted Nov. 7 in a [Detroit Free Press](#) article about the nutritional content of "health" bars.

Dr. Richard Jackson, professor and chair of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in an Oct. 29 [Dallas Morning News](#) article about the effects of long commutes on physical health.

Dr. 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 an Oct. 29 [Ventura County Star](#) article about public reaction to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Gary Small, UCLA's Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, was quoted Oct. 31 in an [Inc.com](#) story about the ability of older brains to innovate.

Dr. Gail Wyatt, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of UCLA's Sexual Health Program, was cited in an Oct. 31 [Ebony](#) column about ways for women to heighten their libido.

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