



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Nov. 21-26, 2014

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Medical and Tech Researchers See Smartphones as Health's Next Frontier

Bakersfield Premie a Miracle Child

Operation Mend Saluted on Veterans Day

UCLA Stem Cell Study Could Lead to New Blood Cancer Treatments

Urologist Featured in Men's Health Magazine

A Melanoma Drug Created by UCLA Scientists More Effective than Chemotherapy

Caring for Loved One with Alzheimer's Disease

Optometrist Outlines Risky Contact-Lens Mistakes

UCLA Stem Cell Researcher Announces Cure for 18 Children with "Bubble Baby" Disease

Hospital Receives Award for Heart Care

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Media Continue to Cover Study on Self-acupressure to Relieve Constipation

The [Washington Post](#) Nov. 26, [HealthDay News](#), [Hindustan Times](#), [Healio Gastroenterology](#) and [Zip Trials](#) Nov. 25, [redOrbit](#) and [Medscape](#) Nov. 24 and [Jewish Business News](#) Nov. 23 reported on research led by Dr. Ryan Abbott, visiting assistant professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, finding that perineal self-acupressure, a simple technique involving the application of external pressure to the perineum, was an effective treatment for constipation. Abbott, who is also a researcher and educator at the UCLA Center for East-West Medicine, was quoted. Senior author Dr. Ka-Kit Hui, Wallis Annenberg Endowed Chair in Integrative East-West Medicine at UCLA and founder and director of the UCLA Center for East-West Medicine, was also quoted in the coverage.

Medical and Tech Researchers See Smartphones as Health's Next Frontier

The [Los Angeles Times](#) on Nov. 22 featured a story on the potential and the challenges facing medical experts and others who want to harness the reach and power of mobile phones to revolutionize healthcare. Charles Lea and Thomas Davis, UCLA grad students, discussed a UCLA study about mobile apps and their potential ability to help improve health and combat disease. Ian Holloway, assistant

professor at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs and lead researcher on the Healthy Selfie project, was quoted. Dr. Bruce Dobkin, director of the UCLA Neurologic Rehabilitation Program and professor of neurology, was also interviewed about his use of custom, mobile-phone-linked motion sensors to monitor the gait of stroke and hip-replacement patients.

Bakersfield Preemie a Miracle Child

The [Bakersfield Californian](#) featured Nov. 15 a story on a baby girl born extremely premature at only 22 weeks and 4 days, and weighing less than a pound. The child, who recently celebrated her first birthday, was cared for in the neonatal intensive care unit at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA for four months. Dr. Uday Devaskar, professor and chief of neonatology at UCLA, was interviewed.

Operation Mend Saluted on Veterans Day

The UCLA Operation Mend program, which provides medical services to wounded service members, continued to receive publicity around Veterans Day, including the story of a Vietnam veteran named Ric Ryan who fundraises for Operation Mend. Ryan was interviewed Nov. 20 by the [Union Democrat](#).

UCLA Stem Cell Study Could Lead to New Blood Cancer Treatments

[Medical Xpress](#), [Health Canal](#), [Red Orbit](#), [Drug Discovery and Development](#) Nov. 25 reported on the discovery of a unique protein, which is essential for the self-renewal of hematopoietic (blood) stem cells (HSCs) during human development. This discovery lays a foundation for researchers to generate HSCs in the lab that are more similar to those that develop in their natural environment. The finding could lead to improved treatments for blood-related diseases and cancers by facilitating the creation of patient-specific blood stem cells for transplantation. Dr. Hanna Mikkola, associate professor of molecular cell and developmental biology, and member of the UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center, was quoted extensively.

Urologist Featured in Men's Health Magazine

[Men's Health](#) featured Dr. Jacob Rajfer in a Nov. 20 story on men misusing erectile dysfunction medication. Rajfer is a professor of urology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

A Melanoma Drug Created by UCLA Scientists More Effective than Chemotherapy

[Markets Insider](#) Nov. 24 reported on findings showing that the melanoma drug Keytruda, made by the company Merck, was superior to chemotherapy. Primary researcher Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of hematology and oncology and a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, presented the findings at the Society of Melanoma Research 2014 International Congress in Zurich, Switzerland.

Caring for Loved One with Alzheimer's Disease

An article in the Nov/Dec 2014 issue of WebMD Magazine featured an extensive interview with Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, about ways to help care for a relative with Alzheimer's disease. Strategies include maintaining a routine, planning for the future with an advance directive, staying informed about the disease and making sure the home is safe for the patient.

Optometrist Outlines Risky Contact-Lens Mistakes

Dr. Vivian Phan, a senior optometrist at the Stein Eye Institute at UCLA, explained in a Nov. 21 [Yahoo Health](#) story the common mistakes made by contact-lens wearers that can increase the risk of damage to their eyes and vision.

UCLA Stem Cell Researcher Announces Cure for 18 Children with "Bubble Baby" Disease

On Nov. 24 [redOrbit](#) reported on the results of several clinical trials involving children with no immune system, better known as severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID). Dr. Donald Kohn, professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics and of pediatrics, and member of the UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center and UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted in the coverage.

Hospital Receives Award for Heart Care

The Nov. 21 Beverly Hills Courier reported that Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center received the Get With The Guidelines®–Heart Failure Gold Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association. The recognition signifies that the hospital has reached an exceptional goal of treating heart failure patients according to guidelines of care recommended by the American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology. Dr. Gregg Fonarow, UCLA's Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted.

BRIEFS

UCLA Medical Center is mentioned in a Nov. 21 [U.S. News & World Report](#) article on the challenges and opportunities involving face and hand transplants.

The UCLA Department of Urology was cited in a Nov. 21 story in [Scientific American](#) about male physicians growing mustaches for “Movember” to raise awareness about men’s health issue, including prostate cancer.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Paul J. Chung, chief of general pediatrics at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, was quoted Nov.25 in a [Fair Warning](#) article about the effectiveness of “drink responsibly” messages in alcohol advertisements.

Dr. Helen Lavretsky, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, is quoted Nov. 24 in an [NBC News](#) article on children coping with parents who are ill and won’t admit it.

Tony Padilla, UCLA Health System’s chief patient experience officer, was quoted in a Nov. 24 [Washington Post](#) article on ways hospitals are focusing on customer service and putting patients first.

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