



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Nov. 22-28, 2013**

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Book Release Featured on Medical Xpress

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Unraveling How Autism Disrupts the Early Brain

A UCLA study that is the first to map autism-risk genes by function and uncover how mutations in the genes disrupt fetal brain development was reported Nov. 26 by the U.K.'s [Autism News Network](#); Nov. 22 by [Psychology Today](#), [redOrbit](#), [News-Medical](#) and [NewsMax Health](#); and Nov. 21 by [HealthDay News](#), [Medical Daily](#), [SFARI News](#), [Science Codex](#), [BioScience Technology](#), [PsyPost](#), [Techno Bahn](#), [Science Newsline](#) and [Medical Xpress](#). Lead author Dr. Daniel Geschwind, the Gordon and Virginia MacDonald Distinguished Professor of Human Genetics, professor of neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, and first author Neelroop Parikshak, a graduate student researcher, were quoted. The HealthDay report was syndicated by [MSN](#), the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), New York's [Newsday](#), NIH's [Medline Plus](#) and [Health.com](#).

Prostate Cancer Stem Cells are a Moving Target

[UPI Health News](#), [Examiner.com](#), [Topix](#), [RSSPUMP News](#), [Stem Cell News Blog](#), and [CQ Services](#) Nov. 26; and [The Cancer Forums](#) and [WNN](#) (Fla.) Nov. 27 featured a study from UCLA's Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research and Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center with findings that the stem cells that initiate prostate cancer evolve to different types of cells as the disease progresses, making the cells a therapeutic "moving target." Dr. Andrew Goldstein, assistant researcher; Dr. Tanya Stoyanova, post-doctoral fellow; and Dr. Owen Witte, professor and director of the Broad Stem Cell Research Center, were quoted in the coverage.

Lockheed Martin UCLA TeleHealth Suite Opens

The new Lockheed Martin UCLA TeleHealth Suite and Lockheed Martin Outpatient Recovery Suites for the wounded warriors of Operation Mend were officially dedicated at a ceremony on Nov. 18 and featured Nov. 22 in the [Santa Clarita Valley News](#) and Nov. 26 by [Military Connection](#), [Healthcare Informatics](#) and [News-Medical](#). The state-of-the-art telehealth suite enables improved communication between the program's personnel, patients and partners, and a renovated recovery area for the wounded warriors who undergo surgery at UCLA Health System. Dr. Christopher Crisera, Operation Mend's co-medical director, and Dr. David Feinberg, president of UCLA Health System, CEO of UCLA Hospital System and associate vice chancellor for health sciences, were quoted.

Showtime Documentary Delves into End-of-Life Issues

[Showtime's "End of Life"](#) documentary series featured a segment on UCLA patient Dr. Antronette (Toni) Yancey, a professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, who dedicated much of her career to promoting health and fitness and to eliminating health disparities. The segment, which chronicled Yancey's last months of life, aired Nov. 22 and explored palliative and end-of-life care – and the decisions that doctors, patients and their families make regarding that care.

More Headlines for Prostate Cancer Study

[Total Health](#) Nov. 19; [Med Page Today](#) Nov. 20; [Domain B](#) and [EGP News](#) Nov. 21; [TeleManagement](#), [Oncology Nurse Advisor](#) and [MPR](#) Nov. 22; [Nutra Ingredients](#) Nov. 25, and [Natural News](#) Nov. 26 reported on a study by Dr. William Aronson that found that men on a low-fat fish oil diet were able to change their prostate cancer tissue. Aronson is a clinical professor of urology at UCLA and chief of urologic oncology at the West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Noninvasive Treatment for Depression

[KTTV-Channel 11](#) Nov. 22 reported on transcranial magnetic stimulation, a noninvasive treatment for depression being offered at UCLA. Dr. Ian Cook, the Miller Family Professor of Psychiatry at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA and director of UCLA's Depression Research Program, was interviewed.

Toxicity at the Dry Cleaners

Peter Sinsheimer, an academic administrator in the environmental health sciences department at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and executive director of the UCLA Sustainable Technology and

Policy Program, was interviewed Nov. 22 on Atlanta's [WAGA-Channel 5](#) about toxic chemicals used in dry cleaning and cleaners that claim to use non-toxic and environmentally friendly techniques.

Reduce Stress with Yoga

A Nov. 22 [Bloomberg](#) article about the benefits of yoga for relieving stress cited a study led by Dr. Helen Lavretsky, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, showing that using yoga to engage in brief daily meditation can lead to improved cognitive functioning and lower levels of depression.

Unhappy Meals: Kids and Fast Food

A study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research showing that 60 percent of young children in California, and 70 percent of Latino children, had eaten fast food at least once during the previous week was highlighted Nov. 25 by the [Sacramento Bee](#), a [Sacramento Bee blog](#), [City News Service](#) and [KCRW 89.9FM](#) and Nov. 26 by [KTTV-Channel 11](#) and Sacramento's [KFBK 1530AM](#). Susan Holtby, a senior researcher at the center, was quoted in the coverage.

Nearly 4 Million Californians Face Hunger

A study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research showing that an estimated 3.8 million California adults — including 500,000 in the San Francisco Bay Area — have trouble providing adequate food for themselves or their families was highlighted Nov. 25 by the [Los Angeles Times](#) and the [Oakland Tribune](#).

Opioid Prescription Guidelines

[Internal Medicine News](#) reported Nov. 21 on a study led by Dr. Teryl Nuckols, assistant professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, that reviewed the guideline recommendations for prescribing opioid painkillers like Vicodin.

Getting to the Bottom of a Giant Fish Story

The [LA Weekly](#)'s science blog and [Phys.org](#) reported Nov. 27 that the UCLA Translational Research Imaging Center conducted an unusual CT scan of a giant oarfish—likely origin of the sea serpent legend of yore--that washed ashore in Oceanside last month. CSUF marine biologist Misty Paig-Tran will use the scans to create the first 3-D model of the monstrous fish. The articles featured a photo of Paig-Tran and Michael McNitt-Gray, a professor of radiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA who performed the scans.

Teen Girl Gets New Heart

[La Opinion](#) Nov. 24 featured the story of a teenage girl who received a heart pump, called the Heart Mate II, to help bridge her to a recent successful heart transplant. Dr. Juan Alejos, professor of pediatric cardiology and medical director of the pediatric heart transplant program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was interviewed.

Glasses Improve Kids' School Performance

An editorial published Nov. 24 in the [Fresno Bee](#) on the expansion of a program that provides free eyeglasses to school children highlighted a study by researchers from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health that found that low-income students in Los Angeles who received glasses through the program showed significant improvement in school performance and self-confidence.

Book Release Featured on Medical Xpress

[Medical Xpress](#) Nov. 20 reported on the release of a new book by Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson, director of the Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS) Clinic and an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, that is designed to help socially challenged teens and young adults make and keep friends.

Prostate Biopsy Study Featured On TV News

[KOTA-TV](#) (S.D.) Nov. 22, and [WJMN-TV](#) (Wis.) and [WFRV-TV](#) (Wis.) Nov. 25 reported 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.

Nanotechnology for Potential Treatment of Pancreatic Cancer

[Nature Materials](#) Nov. 21 and [Nanotech Etc](#) Nov. 27 highlighted a study from UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center proving the principle of a new method of microscopic drug delivery that could greatly improve the treatment of pancreatic cancer. Quoted in the coverage were study leaders Dr. Andre Nel, professor of nanomedicine and member of the California Nanosystems Institute (CNSI), and Dr. Huan Meng, adjunct assistant professor of nanomedicine.

Laboratory Findings May Enhance Treatment of Deadly Cancer

[Examiner.com](#) and [Kate's Foundation](#) Nov. 21; and [Armenian Medical Network](#), [redOrbit](#), and [Spire Gatwick Park Hospital](#) Nov. 22 featured a story on research from UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center (JCCC) that could lead to more effective treatment of metastatic melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer. The study's leader, Dr. Roger Lo, JCCC member, associate professor and director of the melanoma clinic in dermatology, was quoted in the coverage.

Placenta Development Discovery May Illuminate Pregnancy Complications

[Examiner.com](#), [Science Daily](#), [World News Report](#), [ScienceSeeker](#), [SiloBreaker](#), and [Regator](#) Nov. 25; and [Stem Cells Freak](#), [Regator](#), and [Science Codex](#) Nov. 26 highlighted research from UCLA's Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research on the discovery of progenitor cells that are key to the growth of a healthy placenta, and may shed light on placental pregnancy complications. Quoted in the coverage was the study's leader, Dr. Hanna Mikkola, associate professor of molecular, cell, and developmental biology in the life sciences.

BRIEFS

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was referenced in several media stories, including a Nov. 21 [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) story, a Nov. 22 [KNBC-Channel 4](#) report and a Nov. 24 [Santa Monica Patch](#) article, about a possible zoning-ordinance change that would allow medical marijuana dispensaries near Santa Monica's two hospitals.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Jonathan Bergman, assistant professor of urology and family medicine, commented Nov. 22 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) story on end-of-life care.

Susan Cochran, professor of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Nov. 22 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) story about a campaign in Los Angeles County to reduce the high rate of smoking in the gay, lesbian and bisexual community.

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 Nov. 21 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) story about the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Shana Alex Lavarreda, director of health insurance studies at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted Nov. 23 in a [Ventura County Star](#) article about the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in California.

Dr. Dylan Roby, director of the health economics and evaluation research program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and an assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Nov. 21 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) story about the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Roby

also was quoted Nov. 20 in an [Orange County Register](#) article about whether California will allow insurance companies to offer canceled health insurance policies that don't comply with ACA.

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 Nov. 22 in a [MarketWatch](#) article about adjusting financial planning to accommodate increased life expectancy.

Dr. Karol Watson, associate professor of cardiology, was quoted in a Nov. 26 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about the FDA removing restrictions on a diabetes medication that had incorrectly been linked to an increased risk of heart attack.

Dr. Lonnie Zeltzer, director of the pediatric pain program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was interviewed in the November issue of [L.A. Parent](#) magazine for a story about kids and chronic pain.

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