UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Dec. 2 - 9, 2010

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Conversion of Prostate Cells into Killers Draws Headlines

Media Cover Link between Cell Phones, Kids' Misbehavior

NPR Explores the Compulsion to Shop and Return

MORE Offers Guide to Better Vision after 40

KTLA Looks at Crack Cocaine's Legacy

L.A. Times Notes Hospitals Provide More Amenities

Huffington Post Spotlights Hospital Transformation

Reuters Reports Smokers' Daughters Menstruate Earlier

S.M. Daily Press Explains How to Beat the Holiday Blues

Examiner Cites Role of Stress in Cancer Death

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Mirror Runs Column on ‘Healthy’ Holiday Cheer

Column Explores Post-Op Staph Infections

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Trade Exposes Culprit behind Organ Rejection

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BRIEFS

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A.P., ABC Investigate New Mode of Transporting Donated Hearts
ABC World News reported Dec. 8 and Associated Press and A.P. video reported Dec. 6 on a multi-center study led by Dr. Abbas Ardehali, professor of cardiothoracic surgery and surgical director of the UCLA Heart Transplant program. The study is testing a transport box that keeps a donated heart warm and beating vs. preserved on ice in a cooler. Ardehali was interviewed. Dr. Richard Shemin, chief of cardiothoracic surgery, was quoted by A.P. Dr. Daniel Cruz, clinical instructor of cardiology; Younghwa Chang, medical procedure unit nurse; and Birjees Ali-Rizwi, senior echocardiographer, appeared in the A.P. photos. The A.P. story was picked up by more than 400 news outlets, and the ABC story was re-aired by 20 affiliates nationwide.

“Doctors Test Warm, Beating Hearts in Transplant”
http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/00fd08538a4d4d7fb8b27060011b8611/US-MED--Beating_Heart_Transplants/

“Doctors Testing Beating Hearts in Transplants”
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x1vLeANHwjA

“Experimental New Heart Transplant Procedure Keeps Donor Hearts Pumping Until Surgery”

Conversion of Prostate Cells into Killers Draws Headlines
A UCLA study that uncovered a mechanism transforming prostate cells into cancer cells was featured in Dec. 3 and Dec. 4 articles by Asian News International, Science Magazine, Daily Mail (U.K.), EFE News Service, Healthday News, News Chronicle and Bloomberg Business Week, among others. The EFE report was carried by more than a dozen Spanish language outlets. The research was led by Dr. Owen Witte, director of the Broad Stem Cell Research Center at UCLA and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator, and Rita Lukacs a doctoral student in Witte’s laboratory.

“Scientists Discover Mechanism that Turns Healthy Cells into Prostate Cancer Cells”

“Scientists Discover Key Protein that Fuels Growth of Prostate Cancer”

UCLA Stem Cell Researchers Discover Mechanism that Controls Cancer Growth”

“Scientists Find Protein That May Help Control Prostate Cancer”

Media Cover Link between Cell Phones, Kids’ Misbehavior
CNN, Slate and Britain’s Daily Telegraph reported Dec. 7, and Reuters, HealthDay News and Agence France-Presse reported Dec. 6 on a study by Leeka Kheifets, professor of epidemiology at the School of Public Health, suggesting that children who use cell phones and whose mothers used cell phones while pregnant may be more prone to behavioral problems.

“Do Cell Phones Cause Behavioral Problems?”

“Study Links Cell Phones to Child Misbehavior”
http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6B607R20101207

“Cell Phones Linked to Childhood Misbehavior”
http://slatest.slate.com/id/2277061/

NPR Explores the Compulsion to Shop and Return
Dr. Timothy Fong, associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the Impulse Control Disorders Clinic, was featured Dec. 3 on a National Public Radio “Marketplace” segment about a new aspect of compulsive shopping – people who are consumed with the process of returning items they just bought.

“Can Returning Items Become an Addiction?”
http://marketplace.publicradio.org/display/web/2010/12/03/mm-can-returning-items-become-an-addiction/
MORE Offers Guide to Better Vision after 40
Dr. Rex Hamilton, director of the Laser Refractive Center at UCLA’s Jules Stein Eye Institute, gave recommendations for ways to achieve better vision after 40 in the November edition of MORE magazine. “Best Buys for Better Vision”
http://www.more.com/2024/25266-the-vision-thing

KTLA Looks at Crack Cocaine’s Legacy
KTLA-Channel 5 reports airing Nov. 23 and Nov. 24 featured Dr. Karen Miotto, associate professor of psychiatry and director of the Alcoholism and Addiction Medicine Service at the Semel Institute. Miotto was interviewed about how babies born to mothers addicted to crack cocaine are faring as adults. “KTLA Special Report: Crack in the Cradle”

L.A. Times Notes Hospitals Provide More Amenities
A Dec. 5 Los Angeles Times blog article about a study examining the trend of hospitals offering hotel-like amenities to patients cited services at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. “Hospitals are Looking More Like Luxury Hotels. Here’s Why.”

Huffington Post Spotlights Hospital Transformation
A Nov. 4 Huffington Post column focused on a cultural change at UCLA Hospital System to a ‘people-first’ attitude that has yielded concrete results in patient and employee satisfaction. Dr. David Feinberg, CEO and associate vice chancellor; Amir Rubin, COO; and Heidi Crooks, senior associate director of operations and patient care services, were quoted. “Putting the ‘Care’ Back in Health Care – the UCLA Transformation”
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/mark-goulston-md/bringing-back-caring-to-h_b_772524.html

Reuters Reports Smokers’ Daughters Menstruate Earlier
The research of Anshu Shrestha, a doctoral student of epidemiology at the School of Public Health, was featured in a Dec. 3 Reuters report on his study finding that daughters of women who smoked heavily during pregnancy tend to begin menstruating earlier than girls whose mothers didn’t smoke. “Moms’ Smoking in Pregnancy Tied to Girls’ Puberty”
http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6B253C20101203

S.M. Daily Press Explains How to Beat the Holiday Blues
Dr. Andrew Leuchter, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Dec. 6 Santa Monica Daily Press article about how to avoid feelings of loneliness and depression during the holidays. “Got the Holiday Blues? You’re Not Alone”

Examiner Cites Role of Stress in Cancer Death
A study by scientist Erica Sloan that showed stress fueled breast cancer growth in animal models was cited in a Dec. 8 Examiner.com story about Elizabeth Edwards’ death from cancer. Sloan is a Jonsson Cancer Center scientist and a researcher with the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology. “Did Stress Worsen Elizabeth Edward’s Breast Cancer?”

Tech Review Examines Way to Help Paralyzed Rats Run
MIT Technology Review published a Dec. 3 feature on research by Reggie Edgerton, distinguished professor of neurobiology and physiological sciences, to develop an electronic neural bridge that helped rats with severed spinal cords and paralyzed hind legs to run on all four legs again. He and graduate student Parag Gad presented their findings at the Society of Neuroscience meeting. “Device Helps Paralyzed Rats Walk Again”
Mirror Runs Column on ‘Healthy’ Holiday Cheer
Dr. James Davis, staff geriatrician at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital and clinical professor of medicine, wrote a Dec. 9 Santa Monica Mirror column addressing differences between healthy and harmful holiday drinking.
“Healthy Holiday Drinking”
http://www.smmirror.com/#mode=single&view=31465

Column Explores Post-Op Staph Infections
The San Bernardino Sun and San Gabriel Valley Tribune each ran a Dec. 8 column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine, division of infectious diseases, about staph infection flare-ups after surgery. The article highlights work by Dr. Zachary Rubin, who developed a program designed to help reduce pre-surgical levels of staph bacteria in patients. He is a hospital epidemiologist at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital and an assistant professor of infectious diseases.
“Progress Made in Fighting Post-Op Staph Flare-Ups”
http://www.sbsun.com/living/ci_16810467

Oregon Paper Covers Baby’s Radical Brain Surgery
The Coos Bay World (OR) newspaper ran a Dec. 7 story on the return of an 11-month-old-baby and his family to their Oregon home after the boy underwent a hemispherectomy surgery at Mattel Children’s Hospital on Nov. 23. Another story that originally appeared Nov. 24 in the Idaho Statesman was syndicated by the Bellville News Democrat (IL); the News-Observer (NC); and Philadelphia Inquirer (PA) on Dec. 5; and The Republic on Dec. 3. Dr. Gary Mathern, professor of pediatric neurosurgery and director of the UCLA Epilepsy Surgery Program, was quoted.
“Baby Returns Today after Brain Surgery in L.A.”
http://www.theworldlink.com/news/local/article_ed8c82c6-8cc7-5e71-8923-00a5c550b335.html
“Some Babies Have Radical Brain Surgery to Halt Seizures”

Trade Exposes Culprit behind Organ Rejection
BioWorld Today reported Nov. 30 on a UCLA study that identified the mechanism responsible for chronic rejection of organ transplants. Elaine Reed, director of the UCLA Immunogenetics Center and professor of pathology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.
“Prevent HILA’s Friendship with Integrin to Stop Organ Rejection”

Doctor’s Channel Spotlights Osteoarthritis Treatment
“An Option for Osteoarthritis Treatment”

Website Focuses on Medical Technology
A Dec. 6 Zócalo article asked five experts what single technology will most revolutionize the practice of medicine. Dr. Nasim Afsarmanesh, director of the Hospital Medicine and Neurosurgical Clinical Quality Programs at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, was featured.
“What Technology Will Revolutionize Medicine?”
http://zocalopublicsquare.org/thepublicsquare/2010/12/06/what-technology-will-revolutionize-medicine/read/chats/

BRIEFS
Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA was cited Dec. 6 by Broadway World about a concert that will feature the legendary rock guitarist, Slash. Proceeds from the event will benefit the hospital’s pediatric hematology/oncology department.

“Slash to Perform with Student Musicians at Cancer Benefit 12/11”
http://losangeles.broadwayworld.com/article/Slash_to_Perform_with_Student_Musicians_at_Cancer_Benefit_1211_20101206

QUOTABLES

Dr. Carol Archie, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was quoted Dec. 3 by WebMD about whether it is safe for women to drink during pregnancy.
“Alcohol and Pregnancy: Is ‘A Little Bit’ Safe?”
http://www.webmd.com/baby/features/drinking-alcohol-during-pregnancy

Dr. David Baron, chief of staff at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, commented Dec. 8 in a KNX1070AM report about the importance of flu shots.

Dr. Ian Cook, professor of psychiatry and director of the depression research program at the Semel Institute, was quoted Dec. 6 by U.S. News and World Report about ways to beat holiday depression.
“9 Ways to Beat the Holiday Blues”

Dr. Molly Coye, chief innovation officer for the UCLA Health System, was quoted in a Dec. 3 Fox Business article about rising health costs.
"Cut the Cost of Health Care: All Hands on Deck"

Dr. John Glaspy, professor of hematology/oncology and a researcher with UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center, commented Dec. 9 in a Bloomberg News story about the failure of a drug to stop breast cancer recurrence.
“Novartis to Withdraw Expanded Zometa Approval Request after Trial Failure”

David Hovda, professor of neurosurgery and director of the Brain Injury Research Center, was quoted Dec. 7 by TIME about the different symptoms girls and boys suffer after sports-related concussions.
“Study: Boys, Girls Suffer Different Concussion Symptoms”
http://healthland.time.com/2010/12/07/study-boys-girls-suffer-different-concussion-symptoms/

Edythe London, professor of psychiatry and molecular and medical pharmacology at the Semel Institute, commented Dec. 8 in HealthDay News about how omega-3 fatty acids may help alleviate depression.
“Certain Formulations of Omega-3s Might Help With Depression”
http://news.yahoo.com/s/hsn/20101209/hsi_hsn/certainformulationsofomega3smighthelpwithdepression

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor of family medicine, commented Dec. 7 on the CNN en Español program “NotiMujer” about conflict resolution among married couples.
"NotiMujer"
http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=137707&key=Sxl0u0BxkOVXTa$hBGaacyy7k6GV$3R &email=ERivero@mednet.ucla.edu

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