



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT  
For the week of Dec. 6-12, 2013**

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#### **Diverticulosis Study Continues to Garner Coverage**

[HealthDay](#) and [Drugs.com](#) Dec. 5, [EFE News Service](#) Dec. 7, and [Reuters](#) and [Science Abode](#) Dec. 10 reported on a study by Dr. Brennan Spiegel, associate professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases, that found diverticulosis is much less risky than previously believed. The Reuters story also appeared in the [Chicago Tribune](#), [Baltimore Sun](#), [Health 24](#), [KFGO 790AM](#) (N.D.), [WTAQ 1360AM](#) (Wis.), [Yahoo! News](#) and [Global Post](#). The HealthDay story also appeared on [Health.com](#), [Doctor's Lounge](#) and in [Newsday](#).

#### **Kidney Chain Saves Lives, Forms Bonds**

[KABC-Channel 7](#) and [KTLA-Channel 5](#) reported Dec. 8 on a reunion of dozens of kidney donors and recipients who participated in kidney transplant chains at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Dr. Jeffrey Veale, assistant professor of urology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of UCLA's donor exchange program, and Dr. H. Albin Gritsch, surgical director of UCLA's kidney transplantation program and associate professor of urology, were interviewed.

#### **Nurse Heads to Philippines for Typhoon Haiyan Relief Effort**

[CBS2.com](#) and [KNX 1070AM](#) Dec. 9 and [Balita Filipino News](#) Dec. 10 reported that Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center critical care nurse Paolo Montenegro departed Dec. 9 for the Philippines to provide medical support for those who continue to be affected by the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda. Montenegro is a part of a fourth team of nurses participating in the National Nurses United's Registered Nurse Response Network that linked up with nurses already on the ground in Roxas on the northern end of the island of Panay, which was in the direct path of the storm. While the nurses in the program have volunteered their time and depended on the network to fund their relief deployment, Montenegro's assignment breaks new ground with support from his employer, UCLA Health System, which is funding the cost of his flight, accommodations in the Philippines, and two weeks of full pay during his relief assignment. Montenegro and UCLA liver transplant nurse Fong Shu were both interviewed.

#### **UCLA, Cedars Partner on Rehab Center**

[KCSN 88.5FM](#) reported Dec. 5, the [Los Angeles Wave](#) reported Dec. 6 and [Physicians News Network](#) reported Dec. 7 that the UCLA Health System, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and health care company Select Medical are partnering to open a 138-bed medical rehabilitation facility in the former Century City Hospital. Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and associate vice chancellor for health sciences, was quoted. Santiago Munoz, chief strategy officer for UCLA Health System, was interviewed by KCSN.

#### **Hospital Prepares for Crisis Situations**

The International Association for Healthcare Security & Safety's December issue featured how Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center prepares for crisis situations that attract high media attention and involve law enforcement cooperation. Bill Dunne, administrative director of UCLA Health System's Emergency Preparedness, Safety and Security Services, and Vernon Goodwin, security director for UCLA Health System, were interviewed.

#### **Telehealth Proves Popular with Pediatric Patients**

[FierceHealth IT](#), [Science Daily](#), [EHRIntelligence](#), [News-Medical.net](#), [Examiner.com](#), and [MedicalXpress](#) reported Dec. 12 on a new pilot program conducted by the Fit for Healthy Weight program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA which found that pediatric patients in the obesity clinic liked having their appointments via telehealth technology. Dr. Wendy Slusser, medical director of the Fit for Healthy Weight

program at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and director of pediatric wellness programs at the Venice Family Clinic, and Margaret Whitley, project manager of the Fit for Healthy Weight program, were quoted.

### **How Brain Cancer Cells Hide From Drugs**

[Z News](#), [The Siasat Daily](#), [ANI News](#), and the [Dallas Sun](#) Dec. 8; [One News Page](#) Dec. 9, and [Ali's Alliance](#) Dec. 10 featured a study from UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center that found a process by which brain cancer cells were able to hide from drugs that targeted their special features by eliminating those features, then regain the features and become drug sensitive after treatment was stopped. Dr. David Nathanson, assistant professor of molecular and medical pharmacology and the study's leader, was quoted in the coverage.

### **HPV+HIV Equals Anal Cancer Study Continues Drawing Media Interest**

A study done at the School of Nursing showing that older HIV positive men with HPV are at a greater risk of anal cancer was the top story Dec 11 on [POZ Magazine](#) and [aidsmeds.com](#).

### **Family Medicine Chair Pens Letter about Physician Shortage**

The [New York Times](#) published a letter Dec. 8 by Dr. Patrick Dowling, chair of the department of family medicine, highlighting the shortage of primary care physicians.

### **Mexico Newspaper Publishes Op-ed On Stopping AIDS**

[El Jornada](#) (Mexico) published an op-ed Dec. 7 co-authored by Tom Donohoe, associate professor of family medicine and director of the UCLA/Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center, on how the United States and Mexico can work cooperatively to stop HIV/AIDS.

### **Online News Site Explores Cocaine and HIV**

[YottaFire](#) reported Dec. 5 on research led by Dr. Dimitrios Vatakis, assistant professor of medicine in the division of hematology/oncology, finding that cocaine might make otherwise resistant immune cells susceptible to HIV infection.

### **Nursing School Recognized for Best Media Portrayals of Nursing**

The annual list from [The Truth About Nursing](#) of the best and worst media portrayals of nurses recognized the UCLA School of Nursing, Courtney Lyder, dean of the school, and associate professor MarySue Heilemann, for helping boost the image of nursing through their conference "Nurses and the Media" A Call to Action." The awards were announced Dec. 10.

### **Brain Surgery No Laughing Matter**

Dr. Neil Martin, chair of neurosurgery, was interviewed Dec. 9 on "[Extra](#)" about treating comedian Larry Miller, who suffered a life-threatening brain injury.

### **How Chronic Pain Affects Art, Life**

[Slate](#) published a Dec. 7 blog post featuring the photos of Rachael Jablo, a young woman whose migraine headache lasted four and a half years. Titled "My Days of Losing Words," her work currently appears in a campus exhibit at the Learning Resource Center of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

### **Hospitals Receive Top Honors for Operating in a Paperless Environment**

[California Healthline](#) reported Dec. 13 that three UCLA hospitals – Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, the Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital and UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica –received the acute care Stage 7 award from HIMSS Analytics for electronic health record adoption, an award that represents attainment of the highest level of electronic medical record progress at hospitals and health systems. Most recently, only 2.2 percent of the more than 5,400 U.S. hospitals in the HIMSS Analytics Database have received this recognition.

### **Low-Fat Diet Helps Fight Prostate Cancer**

New York's [WWRL 1600AM](#) reported Dec. 11 on research led by Dr. William Aronson, clinical professor of urology and a researcher at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, showing that men with

prostate cancer who ate a low-fat diet with fish oil supplements had changes in their cancer tissue that may help prevent disease growth and recurrence.

### **Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center Participates in New Heart Program**

[Examiner.com](#), [Scrubs Report](#) and [Westwood-Century City Patch](#) Dec. 11 reported that Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center is participating in the American College of Cardiology Patient Navigator Program, the first program of its kind in cardiology designed to support hospitals in providing personalized services to heart disease patients and help them avoid hospital readmission. Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted in the coverage.

### **Media Cover Rheumatologist Shortage**

[Top News](#) Nov. 30 featured UCLA research showing that smaller micropolitan areas of the U.S.—those with less than 50,000 people—have very few or no practicing adult rheumatologists. In some of these areas, individuals have to travel more than 200 miles to reach the closest rheumatologist. Lead author Dr. John FitzGerald, professor of medicine in the division of rheumatology and interim director of UCLA's Division of Rheumatology, was quoted in the coverage.

### **Nutrition Experts Offer Tips on Healthy Holiday Eating**

A Nov. 24 story by [Ivanhoe Broadcast](#) on tips for incorporating healthy foods in your diet around the holidays featured Dr. David Heber, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, and Susan Bowerman, assistant director of the center.

### **NPR, Washington Post on Changes in Health Plan Coverage**

Dr. Gerald Kominksi, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and a professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed Dec. 9 on NPR's "[All Things Considered](#)" and quoted in a Dec. 10 [Washington Post](#) article about how some health insurance plans are changing as a result of the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in California.

### **KCBS Radio and LA Times Discuss Affordable Care Act in California**

Dr. 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 interviewed Dec. 8 on San Francisco's [KCBS 740AM](#) about the estimated number of uninsured Californians who will sign up for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act. Separately, Lavarreda was quoted in a Dec. 8 [Los Angeles Times](#) story about California's health insurance exchange struggling to keep pace with customer demand.

### **NY Post explains Why Teens Act Crazy**

Research by Dr. Daniel Siegel, clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and co-founder of the Mindful Awareness Research Center, was featured in a Dec. 7 [New York Post](#) article about teenage behavior and the development of the adolescent brain. The piece referenced Siegel's book "Brainstorm: The Power and Purpose of the Teenage Brain."

### **Prostate Cancer Stem Cells are a Moving Target**

[News XS](#) Dec. 6, [Topix](#) Dec. 7, and [Domain-b](#), Dec. 10 featured a study from UCLA's Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research and Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center finding 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." The study's leaders, Dr. Andrew Goldstein, assistant researcher; Dr. Tanya Stoyanova, post-doctoral fellow; and Dr. Owen Witte, director of the Broad Stem Cell Research Center, were quoted in the coverage.

### **UCLA Stem Cell Scientists First to Track Development of Human Cartilage**

[Regator](#) Dec. 12 featured research from UCLA's Broad Stem Cell Research Center in which scientists were able to track the development of articular joint cartilage in humans for the first time. Study leader Dr. Denis Evseenko, assistant professor of orthopedic surgery and head of UCLA's Laboratory of Connective Tissue Regeneration was quoted in the coverage.

## BRIEFS

The Rape Treatment Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was referenced in a Dec. 11 [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) story about a new support group in Santa Monica for sexual-assault victims.

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was referenced Dec. 11 in a [CBS2.com](#) report that Santa Monica will hold public hearings about a plan to allow medical marijuana dispensaries within the city's health-care district.

UCLA Medical Center was cited Dec. 12 in an [Acorn News](#) article about a Woodland Hills man who received a life-saving heart transplant at UCLA in 2009 and now volunteers as a transplant ambassador.

A Dec. 11 [ABC News](#) story referenced a UCLA gene therapy study to treat SCID, or "bubble baby" disease. The UCLA principal investigator is Dr. Donald Kohn, a professor of microbiology, immunology, and molecular genetics and pediatrics.

The Dec. 5-11 [Beverly Hills Weekly](#) (page 3) featured a photo taken with Dr. Gary Small, UCLA's Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA and director of the Longevity Center, who gave a talk to the Beverly Hills Rotary Club on ways to improve brain health and memory.

## QUOTABLES

Dr. Alon Avidan, professor of neurology and director of the Sleep Disorders Program, was quoted in a Dec. 9 NBC [Today.com](#) article about a man who slept through his airplane flight and wound up being locked in the empty plane.

Suzette Cardin, assistant dean of student affairs at the School of Nursing, was quoted in a Dec 9 [nurse.com](#) story about the groundbreaking career of a Distinguished Alumni.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, UCLA's Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented in a Dec. 10 [HealthDay News](#) article about a device for treating sleep apnea that may help reduce high blood pressure.

Dr. T. Warner Hudson, medical director of occupational and employee health for the UCLA Health System and campus, was quoted Dec. 10 in an [NBCNews.com](#) report on a new survey suggesting that there is widespread misunderstanding among the public about the flu. He was also quoted Dec. 12 in a [KPCC 89.3FM](#) report on the recent outbreak of bacterial meningitis at several college and university campuses, including UC Santa Barbara and Riverside.

Dr. Royce Johnson, adjunct professor of infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Monday in a [Bakersfield Californian](#) article about the financial challenges facing Kern Medical Center.

Dr. Sandra Loo, associate professor of psychiatry and director of pediatric neuropsychology at the Semel Institute, was quoted in the Dec. 6 [Los Angeles Times](#) about a study that suggests a faulty connection between where the brain stores the auditory building blocks of language and where it processes them that may be to blame for dyslexia.

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 Dec. 8 by [Insurancenewsnet.com](#) and Dec. 9 by the [Republic.com](#) about complaints from people losing their current health insurance due to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Roby was also quoted Dec. 12 in an Associated Press article that appeared on [NBCNews.com](#), [Huffington Post](#), and

[NPR.org](#), about the different rates of people signing up for healthcare between Democratic-led states versus Republican-led states. Roby was also quoted in a Dec. 12 [Denver Post](#) article about the University of Colorado's decision to begin offering in-house insurance services.

Dr. Zaldy Tan, a member of UCLA's Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research and a visiting associate professor of medicine in the division of geriatrics, was quoted Dec. 9 in a [Reuters](#) article about research suggesting that regular exercise is helpful for people with dementia.

Dr. Steven Wallace, associate director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a Dec. 11 [USA Today](#) article about a new national survey showing that, on the whole, Americans are becoming healthier.

Dr. Amy Waterman, associate professor of medicine in the division of nephrology, commented in the November issue of HEC-TV's (St. Louis) "[Impact: Going Global With Stories Of People Making A Positive Impact](#)" in a segment about the annual Donate Life Rose Parade float honoring deceased and live organ donors.

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