



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Dec. 9 - 15, 2011**

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NPR, Fox News Report on Deferred Cancer Treatment

L.A. Times, KTLA Delve into Mystery of Autism

Cancer-fighting Protein Grabs Bilingual Headlines

People Magazine Spotlights Teen Cancer Center's Launch

London Paper Explores Gut Instincts

L.A. Times, Others Cover Blue Shield Dispute

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Medscape Emphasizes Frequent Testing for Glaucoma

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NPR, Fox News Report on Deferred Cancer Treatment

Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of cancer prevention and control research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was interviewed Dec. 8 on NPR's "[Morning Edition](#)" and [FOX News](#) about a government-sponsored panel's recommendations that older men diagnosed with early prostate cancer defer treatment. Dec. 9 coverage included [News-Medical.net](#), [Senior Journal](#) and KFNX (Phoenix), WJSS (Baltimore), KCMN (Colorado Springs), WVIA (Scranton), WDIS (Boston), WCHE (Philadelphia) and WTOP (Washington, D.C.; Dec.11 on [Nurse.com](#) and Dec. 13 by [Oncology Times](#) and [Drug Discovery and Development](#).

L.A. Times, KTLA Delve into Mystery of Autism

Psychologist Pegeen Cronin, director of the UCLA Autism Evaluation Clinic, was interviewed Dec. 11 by the [Los Angeles Times](#) and KTLA-Channel 5 about the possible reasons behind the spike in autism diagnoses over the past generation. (Link to KTLA report: <http://showroom.multivisioninc.com/share.do?id=153307&key=mo6a3Jmzs59kuZOb12qBI3FY5wv3YPZm&email=RChampeau@mednet.ucla.edu>.)

Cancer-fighting Protein Grabs Bilingual Headlines

A UCLA Jonsson Cancer Center study uncovering a protein that may prove useful in fighting certain cancers was featured Dec. 9 by [Lab Spaces](#), [Science Codex](#), [Health News Digest](#), [Examiner.com](#), [News-Medical.net](#) and [Medical Xpress](#); Dec. 13 by Spanish-language news service EFE; and Dec. 14 by [HealthCanal.com](#). The EFE story also appeared in [Univision](#), [La Opinion](#), [Las Noticias Mexico](#), [Yahoo Noticias](#), [El Universal](#), [El Diario](#), [Radio La Nueva Republica](#), [La Carpa](#), [Multimedias Universales](#), [Contexto](#), [NoticiasPV.com](#), [Blog del QFB](#), [Elvallartense](#), [Terra Argentina](#), [La Informacion](#), [Vanguardia](#), [El Dario de Yucatan](#), [Senora Plaza](#), [Oclesis](#), [Salud y Bienestar](#), [Su Medico](#), [La Primera Plana](#), [Melineo](#), [Impre.com](#), [La Prensa](#), [La Cronica de Hoy](#), [El Neuvo Dia](#), [El Siglo](#), [Pulso](#), [Hoy Nuevo York](#) and [Noticias Globales](#). Jorge Torres, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, led the research.

People Magazine Spotlights Teen Cancer Center's Launch

[People](#) magazine aired a Dec. 9 online video about how Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center will house the first U.S. center for teens with cancer. The Who's Roger Daltrey and Pete Townshend sponsored the program through their band's charity organization, Who Cares.

London Paper Explores Gut Instincts

The Sunday Times (U.K.) reported Dec. 4 on a "second brain" in the gut that not only helps control digestion independently of the brain, but also may play a role in emotions, stress response and disease development. Dr. Emeran Mayer, director of the Oppenheimer Family Center for Neurobiology of Stress and a professor of medicine, physiology and psychiatry, was quoted.

L.A. Times, Others Cover Blue Shield Dispute

The Dec. 13 [Los Angeles Times](#) and [San Francisco Business Times](#), and the Dec. 14 [California Healthline](#) reported on a contract dispute between UCLA Health System and health insurer Blue Shield of California over reimbursement rates for medical services.

AAMC Reporter Features Q&A with Former Dean

The November [AAMC Reporter](#) ran a Q&A with Dr. Gerald S. Levey, former vice chancellor for medical sciences and dean emeritus of the David Geffen School of Medicine. Levey outlines lessons for leaders of academic medicine based on his 2010 memoir, *Never Be Afraid to Do the Right Thing*. The book explores leadership lessons he learned, the experiences that shaped his career, and the challenges he faced reconstructing several major UCLA buildings after the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

Medscape Emphasizes Frequent Testing for Glaucoma

[Medscape Medical News](#) reported Dec. 13 on a study by UCLA's Jules Stein Eye Institute discovering that visual field testing twice a year for glaucoma patients is more effective than once-a-year testing and leads to earlier detection of disease progression. Dr. Kouros Nouri-Mahdavi, assistant professor of ophthalmology, and Dr. Joseph Caprioli, chief of the glaucoma division, led the research, which was published in the December print edition of *Archives of Ophthalmology*.

Geriatrician Offers Tips for More Restful Sleep

Dr. James Davis, staff geriatrician at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital and associate professor of medicine, wrote a Dec. 9 [Santa Monica Mirror](#) column on how to improve one's quality of sleep.

Marines Honor Operation Mend Founder

The U.S. Marines Corps [website](#) ran a Dec. 12 story on philanthropist Ronald A. Katz, a board of advisors member for Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, who helped create UCLA's Operation Mend. Katz was honored Nov. 15 with the Marine Corps' Spirit of Hope award at the Pentagon. A partnership between UCLA, Brooke Army Medical Center and the Veterans Affairs- Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, the program provides reconstructive surgery and other medical services to wounded soldiers.

AOL's Patch Applauds Youngster's Toy Drive

The [Agoura Hills Patch](#) ran a Dec. 12 profile of an 8-year-old boy who is spearheading a holiday toy drive to benefit patients at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA. Diagnosed with a chronic condition that requires periodic treatment at UCLA, the boy started the drive because he personally knew how much it means to receive new toys when one is hospitalized during the holidays.

Trade Cites Dwindling Job-Based Health Coverage

A Dec. 8 [California Progress Report](#) article about the number of children in California without health insurance coverage cited an analysis by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. The report found that only one-fifth of people under 65 living in a household with at least one employed member have employer-based health insurance.

Wires Explore Reversing Aging in Brain

[Asian News International](#) reported Dec. 9, and China's [Xinhua News Agency](#) reported Dec. 8 on a study by Cui-Wei Xie, professor-in-residence of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, showing that drugs that affect levels of a particular brain protein may help reverse age-related changes in brain chemistry.

Bioworld Examines New Therapy for Iron-Overload

Bioworld Magazine reported Nov. 8 on an experimental therapy for iron-overload diseases using small molecules that mimic an iron-regulating hormone. Dr. Elizabeta Nemeth, associate professor of medicine, was quoted; Dr. Tomas Ganz, professor of medicine and pathology, was cited. The Journal of Clinical Investigation published the findings on Nov. 1.

Elsevier Covers New Prostate Biopsy Method

[Elsevier Global Medical News](#) reported Dec. 13 on a study by Dr. Daniel Margolis, assistant professor of radiology, that examined a new prostate-imaging technology that fuses MRI with real-time, three-dimensional ultrasound.

Health Site Chokes on Children's Hospital Food

[MDNews.com](#) reported Dec. 15 on UCLA research finding that only 7 percent of entrees and sandwiches served at California's 14 major children's hospitals are healthful. Dr. Lenard Lesser, a physician in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's clinical scholars program in the family medicine department, led the study.

Trades Highlight New Book on Kids' Breathing Problems

[Advance for Respiratory Care and Sleep Medicine](#) and [RT for Decision Makers in Respiratory Care](#) reported Dec. 13 on a new book for parents by Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric ear, nose and throat at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and an associate professor of head and neck surgery, which explains puzzling breathing patterns that children sometimes experience as they grow.

Examiner Spotlights HRSA Appointment

The [Examiner](#) reported Dec. 13 that Dr. Michael Lu, a UCLA associate professor of obstetrics, gynecology, and public health, and local lead investigator of the National Children's Study, was appointed

director of the maternal and child health bureau in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration.

BRIEFS

An article in the Dec. 19 issue of [Newsweek](#) about the use of vaccines to fight cancer cites research on breast cancer by clinical professor of surgery Dr. Susan Love.

UCLA's Bone Marrow Transplant program was cited Dec. 8 in a [South Bay Easy Reader](#) profile of an 11-year-old boy with leukemia who was treated at UCLA. An aspiring chef, the boy has a new cookbook coming out called "Twist It Up."

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center's juvenile diabetes program was cited in [the Lompoc Record](#) in a Dec. 13 profile of an active 13-year-old boy with type-1 diabetes.

The [San Bernardino Sun](#) ran a Dec. 9 op-ed about a new California law authorizing school employees to provide emergency medical assistance to pupils with epilepsy. The essay cited the support of Dr. Raman Sankar, professor and chief of pediatric neurology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA.

Dr. Gary Mathern, professor of pediatric neurosurgery and director of the UCLA Pediatric Epilepsy Program; Carol Kruse, professor of neurosurgery; and Dr. Harry Vinters, professor of neuropathology; were identified Dec. 11 in the Stamford Advocate (CT) in an article highlighting a donation made by the Rasmussen Encephalitis Children's Project to support their research.

QUOTABLES

Gail Abarbanel, director of the rape treatment center at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, commented Dec. 14 on [KABC-Channel 7](#) about a new study on the prevalence of sexual assaults in America.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented Dec. 12 in [HealthDay News](#) ADHD medications not increasing the risk of heart problems in young and middle-aged adults.

Janet Frank, adjunct assistant professor of gerontology at the School of Public Health, was quoted in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article on Dec. 11 about a program to teach individuals to care for senior citizens.

Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of cancer prevention and control research at UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center commented Dec. 8 in the [Houston Chronicle](#) and Dec. 9 on [CBS News](#), [San Antonio Express News](#) and [WebMD](#) about a study finding most women decline to get reconstructive surgery after mastectomy.

Dr. Nick Lowe, clinical professor of dermatology, was quoted Dec. 15 in an article in Britain's [Daily Mail](#) about a new technique that uses a laser to change the color of peoples' eyes.

Dr. Amir Mehran, associate clinical professor of surgery, commented Dec. 14 in the [Los Angeles Times](#) about new Food and Drug Agency actions against advertisements for Lap-Band weight-loss surgery.

Steve Peckman, associate director for administration and planning at the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at UCLA, was quoted Dec. 14 in a California Institute of Regenerative Medicine [blog](#) about researcher access to human embryonic stem cells.

Gail Wyatt, director of the Center for Culture, Trauma and Mental Health Disparities and an associate director of the UCLA AIDS Institute, was quoted Dec. 9 in a [Variety](#) article about recent films addressing social issues in the U.S.

Dr. Neil Wenger, professor of general internal medicine and director of the UCLA Health System Ethics Center, was quoted Dec. 14 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) column about the importance of making one's health care wishes known in advance of critical illness or injury.

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