



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Dec. 14-20, 2012**

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BRIEFS

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Sandy Hook Tragedy

Several UCLA Health System faculty were interviewed about the mass shooting at a school in Newtown, Conn.:

- Melissa Brymer, director of terrorism and disaster programs at the UCLA–Duke National Center for Child Traumatic Stress, was interviewed widely about the psychological aftermath of the Sandy Hook massacre and its impact upon children. Coverage included Dec. 14 on [KCAL-Channel 9](#), the Dr. Phil show; [KNX 1070AM](#), NPR’s “[All Things Considered](#),” the [New York Times](#), and [WebMD](#); Dec. 15 on CNN’s “[The Situation Room](#)” and a BBC news segment; Dec. 16 in [NBCNews.com](#); and Santa Monica Daily [Press](#) articles; Dec. 19 by the [Associated Press](#); and Dec. 20 on [Fox News](#).
- Brenda Bursch, a pediatric psychologist and professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Dec. 14 [Orange County Register](#) article; Dec. 15 [Discovery News](#) article, and Patch.com articles for [Hermosa Beach](#), [Palos Verdes](#) and [Temecula](#); and in a Dec. 17 Oxford University Press [blog](#), all about how to speak to your kids about tragedies like the Sandy Hook shootings.
- Dr. Daniel Geschwind, the Gordon and Virginia MacDonald Distinguished Professor of Human Genetics and a professor of neurology and psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine and Semel Institute, was quoted in a Dec. 16 [Los Angeles Times](#) blog article profiling the gunman.
- Elizabeth Laugeson, an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry in the Semel Institute and director of The Help Group - UCLA Autism Research Alliance, was interviewed widely about the lack of evidence showing any kind of link between violence and people suffering from an autism spectrum disorder. Coverage included Dec. 16 in an [Associated Press](#) article that appeared widely; Dec. 17 on [KNX 1070AM](#), [USA Today](#), [CBSNews.com](#), and [Daily Mail](#) (U.K.) articles; Dec. 18 on the NBC show Extra! and [Business Insider](#); and Dec. 19 in the [Evening Standard](#) (U.K.).
- Emanuel Maidenberg, director of the UCLA Cognitive Behavior Therapy Clinic, and an associate clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured Dec. 14 in the Los Angeles [Daily News](#) and [Time](#) magazine about how to talk to your kids about the Sandy Hook school shooting, and a Dec. 18 [Associated Press](#) report about being more flexible with your children after they hear about tragedies like Sandy Hook.
- Catherine Mogil, assistant clinical professor at the Semel Institute and director of the child and family trauma psychiatry service at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was featured Dec. 14 on the KCET-Channel 28 program [SoCal Connected](#); Dec. 17 on Access Hollywood Live and in a news segment on [KNBC–Channel 4](#), and Dec. 14-18 on [WCSH-TV](#) (Portland, Maine), [WMAQ-TV](#) (Chicago), and some 250 other NBC affiliates about how to talk to and comfort your children about the Sandy Hook shootings.
- Dr. Margaret L. Stuber, the Daniel X. Freedman Professor of Psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Dec. 14 [Examiner](#) blog about how to speak to your kids about tragedies.

Geffen Gift to Transform Medical Education at UCLA Continues Garnering Headlines

David Geffen’s gift of \$100 million to UCLA to establish a scholarship fund that will cover the entire cost of education for the very brightest medical students at UCLA’s David Geffen School of Medicine was highlighted Dec. 13 by [KCBS-Channel 2](#), [KNBC-Channel 4](#), [KPCC 89.3FM](#), [BroadwayWorld.com](#), [Billboard.biz](#), [BusinessWeek](#), and [Variety](#); and Dec. 14 by the [Huffington Post](#), among others. Dr. A. Eugene Washington, UCLA vice chancellor for health sciences and dean of the David Geffen School of

Medicine at UCLA; Gloria Pinedo, financial aid director for the Geffen School; Christine Thang, Katherine Chen and Emily Dubina, medical school students at UCLA, were quoted in the coverage.

LA Times Spotlights Social Media and Medicine

The [Los Angeles Times](#) Dec. 15 published a story about doctors' use of social media for research and to teach people about healthful habits, with an emphasis on work being conducted by UCLA physicians. Dr. Raphael Landovitz, assistant professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases and a physician at the UCLA Center for Clinical AIDS Research and Education (CARE); Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric ear, nose and throat at the Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and associate professor of head and neck surgery; and Dr. Michael Yeh, director of UCLA Endocrine Surgery and associate professor of surgery, were quoted.

KTLA Celebrates Lifesaving Kidney Donation

[KTLA-Channel 5](#) Dec. 17 aired a story about a Castaic woman who donated a kidney to her father, who came to the United States from Mexico poor yet created a successful landscaping business and taught his children valuable lessons that made them stronger people. Dr. Jeffrey Veale, assistant professor of urology, was quoted.

Geriatrician Authors Column on Arthritis

Dr. James Davis, staff geriatrician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and clinical professor of medicine in the division of geriatrics, authored a Dec. 14 [Santa Monica Mirror](#) column about cooler, damp weather aggravating arthritis symptoms.

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Study Continues to Grab Headlines

[Duchenne Parent Project](#) on Dec. 12, [Human Health & Science](#), [Bio Space](#) and [Sci Guru](#) on Dec. 13 and the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine's [Science Blog](#) and [Domain-b](#) on Dec. 18 featured a study that found a potential new drug for Duchenne muscular dystrophy. The study was done by Carrie Miceli, a professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics in Life Sciences and Dr. Stan Nelson, a professor of human genetics

Researcher Shows How Chinese Herbal Medicine May Help Curb Alcohol Abuse

KSCI-Channel 18 featured two Dec. 6 in-studio Chinese interviews ([Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)) with Dr. Jing Liang, associate professor of molecular and medical pharmacology, who discussed her research that identifies how a component of a Chinese herbal anti-hangover medicine counteracts acute alcohol intoxication and alcohol withdrawal symptoms. The technology was licensed by Blue California Company and a product called BluCetin™ is now available.

Infectious Disease Expert Explores Benefits of Cranberries

The [Pasadena Star-News](#) Dec. 20 published a column by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious disease, about cranberries' possible ability to protect against urinary tract infections.

News Sites Report on CIRM Grants to Stem Cell Researchers

[Examiner.com](#) Dec. 13 and [SCVnews.com](#) Dec. 14 reported that Dr. Reza Ardehali and Dr. Ali Nsair, both assistant professors of medicine in the division of cardiology and members of the Eli and Edythe Broad Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research, received grants totaling over \$6 million from CIRM, the state stem cell research agency. Both are studying the replacement of damaged heart tissue using stem cells.

Ivanhoe News Highlights Wounded Warriors

Dr. Patricia Lester, associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and head of UCLA's Project FOCUS (Families OverComing Under Stress), was featured in a Dec. 14 [Ivanhoe News](#) report on the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder on returning soldiers and their families.

LA Times Covers New Drug to Fight Alzheimer's

Dr. John Ringman, associate professor of neurology and a member of UCLA's Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research, was featured in a Dec. 14 [Los Angeles Times](#) report on a study by UCLA and the National Institutes of Health that will test an Alzheimer's drug among members of a community in Colombia where the prevalence of the disease is extremely high. The article also highlighted Ringman's study at UCLA examining a family from Mexico with very high rates of Alzheimer's disease.

Nursing Journal Notes Santa Monica Campus Daisy Recipients

Four UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica registered nurses, Britney Casillas-Moller, Lisa McAuley, Mac Haven Queyquep and GERALYN Thompson, who recently were awarded the prestigious Daisy awards for nursing excellence, were highlighted Dec. 20 in [Advance for Nurses](#).

Dr. Phil Show Interviews Expert on Communicating with Teens

Dr. Daniel Siegel, associate clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and co-founder of UCLA's Mindful Awareness Research Center, was interviewed Dec. 19 on the [Dr. Phil Show](#) about parents' communication with teens and how the brain reacts during conflict.

Marriage is Good for You

Richard Wight, an associate researcher in community health sciences at the Fielding School of Public Health, was featured in a Dec. 14 [Live Science](#), and a Dec. 17 [Queerty](#) article, on his study finding that marriage is associated with an increase in psychological well-being among both heterosexuals and same-sex couples.

Examiner.com Spotlights \$4 million Grant to Mobile Eye Clinic

[Examiner.com](#) Dec. 14 posted a story about UCLA's mobile eye clinic receiving a \$4.1 million grant from First 5 LA, the child advocacy and grant-making organization. This grant will be used to fund the screenings of more than 90,000 children between the ages of 3 and 5, from underserved populations in the county over the next five years.

Man Wears His Heart in a Backpack

The [Beverly Hills Courier](#) reported Dec. 13 on the first patient to go home from Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center with a temporary total artificial heart. The heart, powered by a driver small enough to fit in a backpack, will allow the patient to resume normal activities at home while awaiting a new donor heart. Dr. Murray Kwon, assistant professor of cardiothoracic surgery; Dr. Ali Nsair, assistant professor of medicine in the division of cardiology; Dr. Mario Deng, professor of medicine in the division of cardiology and medical director of the UCLA Advanced Heart Failure/Mechanical Support/Heart Transplant Program; and Dr. Richard J. Shemin, professor and chair of cardiothoracic surgery and surgical director of the UCLA Mechanical Circulatory Support Program, were cited.

Breathing Lung Transplant Makes Headlines

The [Beverly Hills Courier](#) featured Dec. 13 an article on the nation's first 'breathing lung' transplant performed at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. The experimental device transports donor lungs warm and breathing instead of frozen in a cooler. Dr. Abbas Ardehali, professor of cardiothoracic surgery and director of the lung and heart-lung transplantation program, and Dr. David Ross, professor of medicine and medical director of UCLA's lung and heart-lung transplantation program and UCLA's pulmonary arterial hypertension and thromboendarterectomy program, were quoted.

Mending through Mitzvah

The [Jewish Journal](#) Dec. 19 featured a story on a 13-year-old teenager who donated \$13,000 from his bar mitzvah gifts and matching funds to the UCLA Operation Mend program, which provides reconstructive surgery and medical services to wounded warriors. Ronald Katz, founder of Operation Mend and a UCLA board member; and Dana Katz, who coordinates Operation Mend's Buddy Family program, were interviewed.

UCLA Expert on Severe Morning Sicknesses Interviewed by People, E! News

Dr. Marlena Fejzo, an assistant professor of research in obstetrics and gynecology, discussed the severe form of morning sickness hyperemesis gravidarum Dec. 8 in [People Magazine](#) and Dec. 11 in [E! News](#).

KNBC Features Targeted Biopsy Story

[KNBC-Channel 4](#) Dec. 13 reported on a study by UCLA researchers demonstrating that prostate cancer — long identifiable only through painful, hit-or-miss biopsies — can be diagnosed far more easily and accurately using a new procedure that combines MRI and ultrasound. Dr. Leonard Marks, clinical professor of urology, was quoted.

BRIEFS

A Dec. 18 article in London's [Independent](#) about exercise and the brain cited research led by Dr. Cyrus Raji, a radiology resident at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, showing that seniors who engage in regular aerobic activity have an increased amount of gray matter in their brains.

The Dec. 19 Santa Monica Daily Press published a captioned photo from a disaster exercise at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica organized by UCLA Health System's Office of Emergency Preparedness to test the Santa Monica campus' readiness to decontaminate first responders and their firearms.

Four UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica nurses who received Daisy awards for extraordinary nursing care were mentioned Dec. 20 in [Advance for Nurses](#).

QUOTABLES

Dr. John DiFiori, clinical professor of family medicine and chief of the division of sports medicine, commented Dec. 15 in an [NPR](#) report about the quick recovery of two NFL players from knee injuries.

Dr. Richard Finn, associate professor of medicine in the division of hematology/oncology and member of the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted in a Dec. 20 [Forbes.com](#) article that featured his recent announcement of Phase 2 results of a new drug combination for post-menopausal women with estrogen-receptor positive breast cancer. The article focused on the lessons to be learned in research and development of new drugs, with Finn's study as an example.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented Dec. 14 in a [HealthDay News](#) story that also ran on [Medical Express](#) about the heart risks of yo-yo dieting. He was also quoted Dec. 17 in a [HealthDay News](#) story about stopping hypertension through a kidney treatment. Additionally, he commented in a Dec. 18 [HealthDay News](#) story that also ran in [U.S. News & World Report](#) about research showing that daily aspirin use may slightly increase the risk of age-related macular degeneration. Fonarow also commented Dec. 20 in a [HealthDay News](#) story that also ran in [U.S. News & World Report](#) about a study showing that fish oil supplements do not have any effect on irregular heart rhythms.

Dr. Shaun Hussain, assistant clinical professor of pediatric neurology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented Dec. 19 in a [Chicago Tribune](#) article about what to do when your child has a seizure.

Dr. Frisca Yan-Go, professor of neurology, was quoted in a Dec. 18 [Lifehacker](#) column about how to feel more awake and active each day.

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