UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
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Reuters: Radiation for breast cancer not as bad as feared
(Photo: Flickr / Dina-Roberts Wakulczyk)
Radiation for breast cancer not as bad as many fear, UCLA study shows
Reuters, HealthDay, MedicalXpress and Radiology Business reported on a UCLA study that examined women with breast cancer's attitudes and fears regarding radiation treatment. The research revealed that women who received this treatment found their experience was much better than they had expected. Lead author Dr. Susan McCloskey, assistant professor and director of the UCLA Breast Center in Santa Monica, was quoted. The HealthDay story was syndicated to WebMD, UPI, The (Philadelphia) Inquirer and Newsmax. The Reuters story was syndicated to Business Insider.

Paid family medical leave in the U.S.: Good for families, good for the economy
SLATE magazine featured a new report from the WORLD Policy Analysis Center at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health that summarizes the findings of more than 5,500 research papers on the medical and economic benefits of paid leave. The report's lead author, Dr. Jody Heymann, dean of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, is quoted. Politico's Morning Shift included a summary of the report, and Medical Express also covered it.

Does drinking help you live longer?
Shape Magazine featured Dr. Nina Shapiro, a professor of head and neck surgery, discussing a University of California study on a possible correlation between drinking moderate amounts of alcohol and increased longevity.

The importance of getting a flu shot
An NPR “Here & Now” report on the current, severe flu season featured Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, who explained when people should seek medical treatment and who stressed
that the vaccine offers some protection against the virus. Klausner is a professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases and of public health at UCLA’s David Geffen School of Medicine and Fielding School of Public Health.

The history of “rat-bite fever”
A Discover magazine blog featured an article by Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan about “rat-bite fever,” an illness caused by a bacterium first described in 1914 that killed up to 15 percent of its victims prior to the development of antibiotics; today, due to various risk factors including exotic pets, it still poses a threat to humans. Panosian is a professor of medicine emeritus/recalled in the Division of Infectious Diseases.

Fighting laryngitis? Treat yourself to a cup of tea.
National Public Radio interviewed Dr. Jennifer Long, assistant professor of head and neck surgery, about how drinking hot tea with honey and lemon might help improve a sore throat and laryngitis.

ABC News spotlights pioneer in eye surgery
ABC News’ Good Morning America featured Dr. Patricia Bath, who in 1974 became the first female faculty member at UCLA’s Stein Eye Institute, in a profile honoring Black History Month. Bath invented a technique called laser phaco that revolutionized cataract surgery.

Doctors identify culprit behind mysterious pediatric disease
Gizmodo interviewed Dr. Paul Krogstad, a professor of pediatrics and infectious diseases at UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital, about a Lancet study on a virus that paralyzes children with polio-like symptoms.

Study examines strategies to increase HPV vaccine uptake
Healio featured a Q&A with Roshan Bastani, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of the UCLA Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Equity and the UCLA Center for Prevention Research, who is leading a new, five-year study to evaluate strategies to increase uptake of the HPV vaccine among teens in Los Angeles County. Bashstani is also a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

What’s the mind-gut connection and how did it evolve?
Tonic featured Dr. Emeran Mayer, director of the G. Oppenheimer Center for Neurobiology of Stress and Resilience and co-director of the CURE: Digestive Diseases Research Center, in a story about the impact of food intolerance tests.

Machine learning and brain scans offer insight into OCD therapy
Radiology Business featured research by Dr. Jamie Feusner, a professor-in-residence in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences at UCLA’s Semel Institute, and Nicco Reggente, a UCLA doctoral student, in which they used brain scans and a form of artificial intelligence to predict which people with obsessive-compulsive disorder would benefit from cognitive-behavioral therapy.

Playing sports and youth improve driving performance
Medical Daily, Insurance Journal, Telegram, Croatia’s Claims Journal and Indonesia’s Beritager reported on a new study led by Nancy Wayne, UCLA associate vice chancellor for research and a professor of physiology, finding that – among other things – new male
drivers in their teens drove better than older male drivers.

**Being raised in greener neighborhoods may benefit brain development**

Several outlets covered a new study co-authored by Michael Jerrett, department chair and professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, reporting that exposure to green space during childhood is associated with beneficial structural changes in the developing brain. Coverage included AFP, Infosurhoy, KeepHealthCare, LaboratoryEquipment, Modern Psykologi, MedicalDaily, Medicalxpress, Newsmax Health and PsychCentral.

- Dr. Jerrett, who collaborated with researchers in Spain on the study, was also quoted in major Spanish newspapers such as ABC and La Vanguardia.

**This week on “Ask the Doctors”**

UCLA Health internists Dr. Robert Ashley, Dr. Eve Glazier and Dr. Elizabeth Ko address health-related questions in the recurring “Ask the Doctors” column, syndicated by more than 50 outlets nationwide. A sampling of the stories from this past week’s column:

- On why you should stay home when you have the flu, in Hanford, California’s The Sentinel
- On the link between marijuana use and schizophrenia, in Roseburg, Oregon’s The News-Review
- On the potential long-term risks of cellphone use, in Maryland’s The Frederick News-Post
- On egg allergies and flu shots, in Scranton, Pennsylvania’s The Times-Tribune.
- On probiotics for colicky babies, in Washington’s The Spokesman-Review
- On transient global amnesia, in Oklahoma’s Tulsa World.

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**QUOTED**

“You should not have to be a Ph.D toxicologist to be safe from so many of the chemicals in use. So much of what we are exposed to is poorly tested and even less regulated.”

- Dr. Richard Jackson, in The New York Times
Gail Abarbanel, director of the Rape Treatment Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was quoted in the Los Angeles Times in a story about sexual predators posing as ride-hailing drivers to lure women into their vehicles. The story also appeared in the Honolulu Star Advertiser.

Dr. Joann Elmore, professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research and director of the UCLA National Clinician Scholars Program, commented in a Wall Street Journal story about “OurNotes,” under which patients are invited to co-produce medical notes with their doctors.

Dana Hunnes, a senior dietitian at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and an adjunct assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted by AccuWeather in a report on plant-based diets’ potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Dr. Richard Jackson, professor emeritus of environmental health Sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a column by Nicholas Kristof in the The New York Times about the health effects of everyday chemical exposure.

Gerald Kominski, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted in The Street in a story about how Medicare doesn’t cover seniors’ out-of-pocket medical expenses.

BRIEFS

The Santa Monica Mirror noted that UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, is hosting a Diabetes Education conference on March 3.

The Sun-Gazette in Visalia, California, cited diabetes data from a study by the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in a story about a new diabetes education program in Tulare County.
Los Angeles Lakers visit patients at UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA Newsroom

Paid family medical leave in the United States: Good for families, good for the economy UCLA Newsroom

How to survive the high anxiety of college admission decisions UCLA Health Connect blog

Stem cell researcher elected to American Society for Clinical Investigation UCLA Newsroom

This report features media placements from UCLA Health, which includes the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital, the Stewart and Lynda Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital at UCLA, the UCLA Health Clinics and the UCLA Faculty Practice Group.

It also includes placements from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, the UCLA School of Nursing, the UCLA School of Dentistry, the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and the UCLA Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research.

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