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BBC World Radio: Study identifies genes that cause extreme sickness during pregnancy

(Photo: Courtesy of Melanie Schoenberg)
Study identifies genes that cause extreme sickness during pregnancy

BBC World Radio; Live Science; Daily Mail; Gizmodo; Fast Company; International Business Times; The London Times; GenomWeb; Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology News; MedPage Today; ScienceDaily; Scienmag; Medical Xpress; News-Medical.net; Health Canal; Lab Manager; KCBS-TV; KTLA-TV; KCAL-TV; FOX11-TV; KSWB-TV, San Diego; WGNO-TV, New Orleans; City News Service; and Medical Research.com reported on a new study led by researchers at UCLA and published in the journal Nature Communications that identified two genes associated with severe nausea and vomiting during pregnancy. Marlena Fejzo, the study’s first author and an associate researcher at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted. The BBC radio segment also aired in the U.S. on dozens of outlets including NPR, WDDE 91.1FM Philadelphia, and Capitol Public Radio, Sacramento.

Cardiovascular health disparities have narrowed – for an unexpected reason

Reuters Health; HealthDay News; ABC News; Healio: Internal Medicine; MedPage Today; ZME Science; MedicalXpress; Scienmag; News-Medical.net; MyScience.org; ReachMD; KTTV-TV; WLOS-TV, Asheville, North Carolina; WBBR-AM, New York; and three other television and radio stations reported on research led by Dr. Arleen Brown suggesting that the nation’s overall cardiovascular health worsened between 1988 and 2014. Disparities among racial and ethnic groups dropped slightly due to worsening health among whites and not improvements among African-Americans and Mexican-Americans. Fox News, KFGO.com, Yahoo! Australia and nearly 50 other outlets ran the Reuters story, and Philly.com carried the HealthDay article. Brown is a professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Olive View
UCLA Health program helps homeless complete advance directives

Digital science magazine Undark published an article about a grant-funded UCLA Health program designed to encourage homeless residents to consider completing advance healthcare directives, indicating their preferences for future medical care. Jeannette “Jeannie” Meyer, a clinical nurse specialist for palliative care, and Theresa Haley, a clinical instructor with the Center for Prehospital Care, were quoted.

KNBC-TV spotlights Match Day at UCLA

KNBC-TV covered Match Day, when graduating medical students learn where they have been accepted for training in their chosen specialty, at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Fourth-year student Chidozie Chimezie was interviewed.

Op-ed: Why do consumers consult celebrities for health advice?

STAT News published an op-ed by Dr. Nina Shapiro questioning why consumers turn to celebrities who aren’t physicians for health advice, particularly about life-saving tools like childhood vaccines. Shapiro is a professor of head and neck surgery and the director of pediatric otolaryngology. Her commentary was covered by Becker’s Hospital Review.

Coffee and tea are not dehydrating

A TIME article explaining why coffee and tea do not cause dehydration, as is commonly believed, featured Dr. Daniel Vigil, a health sciences associate clinical professor of family medicine. MSN and Food & Wine syndicated the article, and The Takeout ran Vigil’s comments.

The health impact of living near freeways

KCRW featured a new study being led by Yifang Zhu, a professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, investigating the air quality around UCLA’s University Village, a housing complex that runs along Sawtelle and Sepulveda boulevards, on either side of the 405 freeway.

Many barriers exist for women fighting breast cancer

KCBS-TV broadcast a news segment that featured AJ Scheitler, coordinator of stakeholder relations and coordinator of the National Network of State and Local Health Surveys at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, in the March 19 Health Policy Seminar discussing study findings on barriers that women with breast cancer face in California.

Operation Mend restores wounded veterans

PC Magazine featured a story on the UCLA Health Operation Mend program, which provides free medical, surgical and mental health services to wounded veterans. Melanie Gideon, director of Operation Mend, was interviewed.

30-day mortality is better predictor of heart failure survival

Reuters Health and Medscape (login required, but available for free) reported on a new study co-authored by Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and co-chief of cardiology, finding that a patient’s 30-day mortality rate after being discharged from the hospital was a better predictor of surviving heart failure than hospital readmission rates. Fonarow was quoted.

Mentally ill populations in L.A. benefit from new services
UPI covered a study, by RAND Health and the UCLA Center for Health Services and Society, concluding that a special tax has helped Los Angeles’ homeless and disadvantaged youths and adults with mental health issues.

**Tips to prevent time-change sleep problems**

KNX-AM featured Dr. Alon Avidan, a professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Center, in a story about how to adjust to daylight saving time.

**Metabolite therapy rids mice of C. diff in new study**

Bioscience Technology, MyScience.org and Medical Xpress covered UCLA research finding that a metabolite therapy proved effective in treating C. difficile infection in mice. Hon Wai Koon, associate professor of digestive diseases, is the study’s senior author.

**Learning to tolerate anxiety is key to OCD symptom relief**

MyScience.org featured Dr. Jamie Feusner, a professor-in-residence in the department of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at UCLA’s Semel Institute, in an article about treating obsessive-compulsive disorder with cognitive behavioral therapy.

**Nanospears could revolutionize gene therapy**

UPI.com, Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News, In-Pharma Technologist, Newsline, News-Medical.net, Breitbart, Innovations Report, National Science Foundation, Chemical & Engineering News, Phys.org, MyScience.org, Immuno-oncology News, Nanowerk, Science Daily, Science Newsline, SciCasts, GEN, Health Medicine, Noticias de la Ciencia y la Tecnologia, Controlled Environments and BioTecNika reported on magnetically guided nanospears created at UCLA that could make gene therapies safer, faster and more cost-effective. The splinter-like structures were created by Paul Weiss, UC Presidential Chair and distinguished professor of chemistry and biochemistry, materials science and engineering in the UCLA College of Life Sciences, and Dr. Steven Jonas, a clinical fellow in the division of pediatric hematology/oncology at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital and trainee at the UCLA Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research.

**New immunotherapy treatment for advanced liver cancer**

Drug Discovery & Development Magazine, Check Orphan, Scienmag, Medical Xpress and ecancer featured research led by Dr. Steven S. Raman, director of Prostate MR Imaging and Interventions and member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, about a promising new immunotherapy treatment that uses a genetically modified version of the herpes virus for advanced stage liver cancer. Raman presented the data at the Society of Interventional Radiology’s Annual Scientific Meeting.

**Neuroscientist to present lecture on brain injuries**

The Simi Valley Acorn reported on an upcoming lecture at a local high school by Mayumi Prins, a professor of neurosurgery and education director for the UCLA Brain Injury Research Center, about how technology is shaping future treatment of brain injuries.

**Studies suggest simple tips for reducing glaucoma risk**

Eye World covered two studies by Dr. Anne Coleman, the Fran and Ray Stark professor of ophthalmology and a professor of epidemiology, showing a correlation between regular exercise and hot tea and a reduced risk for glaucoma.

**Researchers find overlapping molecular signatures in severe mental illness**
The Hindu reported on research by Dr. Daniel Geschwind, a UCLA professor of neurology and psychiatry and the Gordon and Virginia MacDonald Distinguished Chair in Human Genetics, and Dr. Michael Gandal, an assistant professor in residence at UCLA’s Semel Institute. The research describes overlapping patterns of genetic activity across five major psychiatric diseases.

Health care system could save $17 billion on hip and knee replacements
Becker’s ASC Review and DrugWatch covered a new opinion paper authored by Dr. Jonathan Fielding, professor-in-residence of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and co-director of the UCLA Center for Health Enhancement, Education and Research; Dr. Steven Teutsch, an adjunct professor at the Fielding School and collaborator with the Center for Health Advancement; and Vanessa Lam, a graduate student in the Fielding School’s Department of Health Policy and Management and the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. In the opinion piece, the authors state that the U.S. could save billions of dollars per year by controlling costs related to elective hip and knee replacements.

This week on “Ask the Doctors”
UCLA Health internists and assistant professors of medicine 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 hookworm larva, in Spokane, Washington’s The Spokesman-Review
- On diagnosing dementia, in South Dakota’s Aberdeen News
- On milk thistle, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts’ The Berkshire Eagle
- On leafy greens and cognitive health, in Maryland’s The Frederick News-Post
- On kratom use, in California’s Hanford Sentinel

QUOTED

“The medical community and patients benefit from a diversity of practicing physicians… It’s a disservice to patients to discourage qualified doctors from practicing medicine in this country.”

- Dr. Clarence Braddock, in the Los Angeles Times, on a White House travel ban
Robert Asarnow, the Della Martin Professor of Psychiatry in the department of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, commented in a MedPage Today story about how childhood brain injuries may be linked to ADHD years later.

Philippe Bourgois, director of the Center for Social Medicine and Humanities at UCLA’s Semel Institute, commented in a Vice Tonic article about President Trump’s recent remarks about punishing drug dealers.

Dr. Clarence Braddock, vice dean for education, was quoted by the Los Angeles Times in a story about how the White House travel ban is preventing foreign doctors from coming to study in the U.S. The story was syndicated by 60 news outlets, including the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, The Spokesman-Review, Madison.com and Tucson.com.

Ron Brookmeyer, a professor of biostatistics at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted by Next Avenue in an article about the Alzheimer’s Association’s new report on the number of Americans living with Alzheimer’s.

Dr. Maxime Cannesson, a professor of clinical anesthesiology, was quoted in a Healio article about hypotension prediction software.

Steve Cole, a professor of medicine and psychiatry and director of the UCLA Social Genomics Core Laboratory, commented in BBC Focus magazine about how loneliness negatively affects the immune system.

Dr. David Eisenman, professor-in-residence of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research and director of the UCLA Center for Public Health and Disasters in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented in an Eos article about the health impacts of climate change in Alaska.

Dr. Matthew Freeby, director of the UCLA Gonda Diabetes Center, was quoted in a story in the U.K.’s Express about how people with type 2 diabetes can avoid blood sugar spikes by opting for whole grains over white grains.

Dr. Patricia Ganz, distinguished professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of Cancer Prevention and Control Research at the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted by Cure in an article about how women who have survived cancer can keep their bones healthy.

Dana Hunness, a senior dietitian at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and an adjunct assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented in a MEL Magazine story about the nutritional quality of pizza.

Dr. Zhaoping Li, director at the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, was quoted in Daily Mail and Express Digest stories about a new study examining the effects of green tea supplements on the development of facial features characteristic of Down’s syndrome in babies who have it. The stories referenced Li’s past research on black tea.

Jeanne Miranda, a professor of psychiatry, commented in a Reuters Health article about a recent study finding most adults diagnosed with depression in primary care don’t start treatment.
Dr. Leena Nathan, an assistant clinical professor and obstetrician-gynecologist at UCLA Health-Westlake Village, was interviewed on KFI 640AM about a proposed bill that would help women be screened for post-partum depression.

Brennan Spiegel, part-time professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a Fortune article about how big data may transform medicine.

**BRIEFS**

*TIME* referenced UCLA's campus-wide initiative called the Depression Grand Challenge, a challenge to radically transform how depression is treated, in a story about college students seeking treatment for mental health issues.

*Becker's Hospital Review* reported that the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA ranked No. 4 in primary care and tied for No. 8 in research U.S. News and World Report’s annual assessment of graduate schools.

*Becker’s ASC Review* referenced that Dr. Christina Ha, the physician who performed a colonoscopy on late-night talk show host Jimmy Kimmel, is an assistant clinical professor in the UCLA Vatche & Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases.

*Becker's Spine Review* recognized Dr. Sharon Hame, a clinical professor and orthopaedic surgeon specializing in trauma and sports medicine, as one of the top 50 female orthopaedic surgeons in the United States.

*Healio: Nephrology* and *MedPage Today* (login required but available for free) cited an editorial by Drs. Keith Norris and Susanne Nicholas that accompanied a study published in the Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology about barriers to kidney disease screening among African Americans. Norris is a professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, and Nicholas is an associate professor of medicine in the division of nephrology.

*The San Diego Union Tribune*, in a story about UC San Diego's search for donations to its medical school, referenced David Geffen’s donation to the medical school at UCLA.

A *Fierce Healthcare* article on ways to reduce physician burnout referred to a paper co-authored by Dr. David Reuben, chief of geriatrics.

The *Cleveland Plain Dealer* cited a study by the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research that ranked Ohio as having the most state policies in the nation that excluded undocumented immigrants.

**CONTENT CREATED BY MEDIA RELATIONS**
UCLA Newsroom: Medical students face their futures at Match Day
(Photo: Dean Ishida/UCLA)

Two genes likely play key role in extreme nausea and vomiting during pregnancy UCLA Newsroom

Cardiovascular health disparities between whites and minorities narrow, study shows UCLA Newsroom

How California can break down barriers to breast cancer treatment UCLA Newsroom

UCLA School of Nursing is launching Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program UCLA Newsroom

Metabolite therapy proves effective in treating C. difficile in mice UCLA Newsroom

Building tolerance to anxiety is key to OCD symptom relief UCLA Newsroom

David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA places highly in national ranking UCLA Health

Gift to UCLA Nursing will create endowed chair in disability studies UCLA Newsroom

How often are heart attack and stroke diagnoses missed in the emergency room? UCLA Health Connect blog
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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