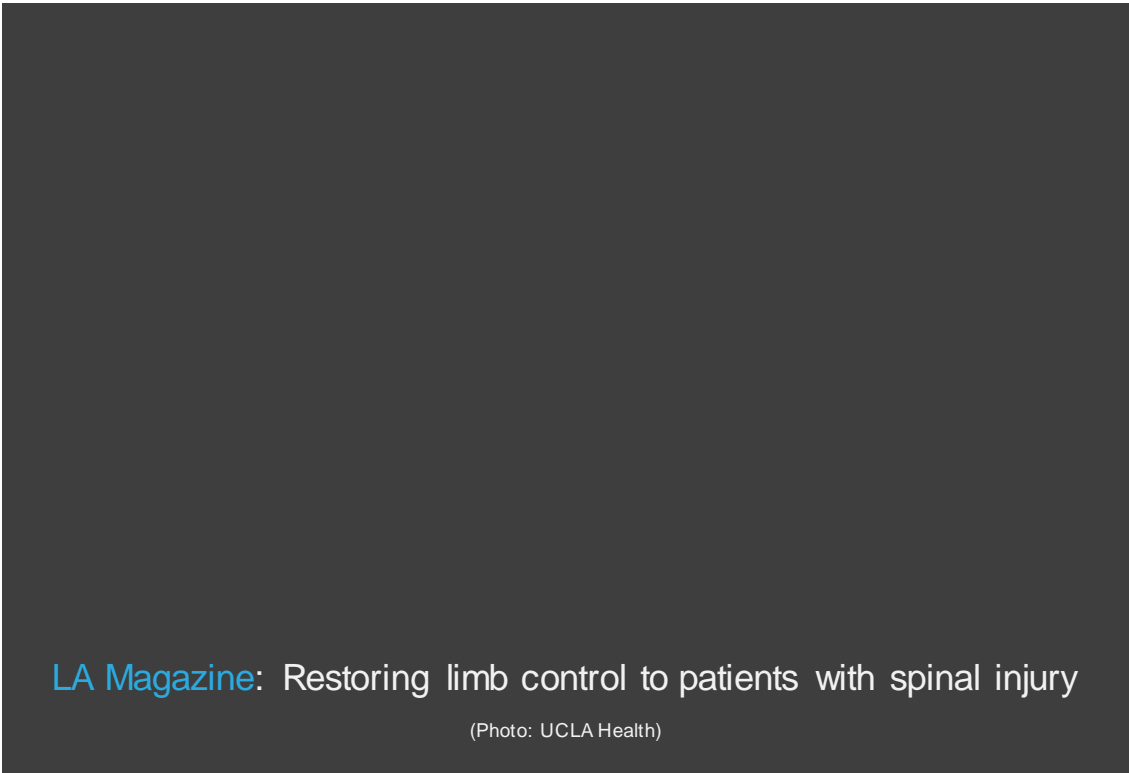




Health

UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT March 30 - April 5, 2018

Note: Website links may expire without notice. Some sites require password registration. If you cannot access a story or would like to obtain a copy, please call (310) 267-7022.



[LA Magazine: Restoring limb control to patients with spinal injury](#)

(Photo: UCLA Health)



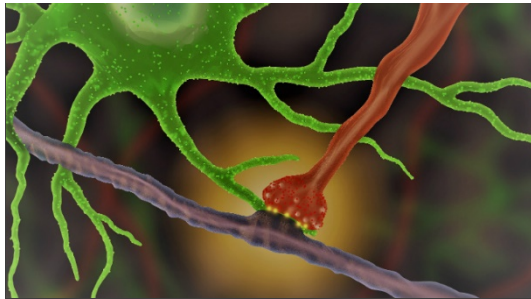
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UPI: New Method for watching brain cells interact in real time

(Photo: UCLA Health)



California Health Report: For diversity in medicine, try a dose of inspiration

(Photo: UCLA Health)



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FEATURED

Los Angeles Magazine showcases three of UCLA's top doctors, programs

Several UCLA physicians and programs were prominently featured in Los Angeles Magazine's April issue, themed "Top Doctors: A guide to L.A.'s finest physicians."

- A [story](#) referenced on the cover spotlighted Dr. Daniel Lu, vice chair of research for neurosurgery, and his study to restore hand control to spinal-cord injury patients. The piece quoted Lu and patient Brian Gomez, and cited the earlier work of collaborator Reggie Edgerton, a professor of physiology and neurobiology.
- A [second piece](#) focused on a local family whose daughter was diagnosed by the UCLA site of the Undiagnosed Diseases Network after a long medical odyssey. Program co-director Dr. Stanley Nelson, a professor of human genetics, was quoted.
- A [third piece](#) highlighted the UCLA International Medical Graduate Program, which helps foreign-trained doctors obtain their U.S. medical license and residency training in family medicine, easing the shortage of primary care physicians. Program director Dr. Michelle Bholat, executive vice chair of family medicine, and Dr. Silvia Elena Buenrostro, one of the IMG doctors, were quoted.

New method for watching brain cells interact in real time

[UPI](#), [MSN](#), [Quo](#), [Evaluation Engineering](#), [Science Newsline](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Breitbart](#), [Neuroscience News](#) and [News-Medical.net](#) reported on a method discovered by UCLA researchers allowing them to observe astrocytes physically interacting with synapses in a mouse's brain. Baljit Khakh, the study's lead author and a professor of physiology and neurobiology, and Chris Octeau, the study's first author and a UCLA postdoctoral fellow in

physiology, were quoted in coverage.

For diversity in medicine, try a dose of inspiration

[California Health Report](#) covered the “Black Men in White Coats” campaign at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. The campaign, featuring video profiles of Dr. Stanley Frencher, an assistant professor-in-residence at the Geffen School of Medicine, and Dr. Olawale Amubieya, a fellow in the department of pulmonary and critical care medicine at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, is intended to inspire underrepresented minority students to consider becoming physicians.

Low birthweight in newborns linked to high levels of certain protein

[Daily Mail](#), [Deccan Chronicle](#), [Health News Digest](#), [Health Canal](#), [Science and Technology Research News](#) and [The Asian Age](#) covered a UCLA study finding the presence of higher levels of a protein called humanin in the placenta tissue of women who give birth to severely underweight infants. Dr. Carla Janzen, an associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, and Dr. Sherin Devaskar, the Mattel Executive Endowed Chair in Pediatrics at UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital and executive director of the UCLA Children’s Discovery and Innovation Institute, led the study.

Improving advance care planning

[KNX-AM](#), [LAWestMedia](#), [MyScience.org](#) and [Medical Health News](#) reported that a UCLA-led team has received a five-year, \$8.4 million award from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute to develop effective approaches to improve advance care planning for seriously ill patients treated in primary care clinics. The project is in collaboration with UC San Francisco and UC Irvine.

Using technology to treat depression

A [Mashable](#) article about using technology to personalize treatment for depression featured Dr. Andrew Leuchter, director of the neuromodulation division at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior.

Physician explains risks of condom snorting

[SELF](#) featured the expertise of Dr. Jeffrey Suh, an associate professor of head and neck surgery, in a story about the health hazards of the “condom snorting challenge.”

Battling obesity nationwide

A [Voice of America](#) story about addressing the obesity epidemic featured Dana Hunnes, a senior dietitian at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and an adjunct assistant professor in the department of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

Bouncing back from a hangover

[NBC News](#) featured Dr. Medell Briggs as an expert in a story about the best ways to prevent and recover from a hangover. Briggs is an assistant professor of emergency medicine and director of quality for emergency medicine.

Physical fitness program helps address pediatric obesity

SiriusXM’s “Doctor Radio” featured UCLA Health Sound Body Sound Mind’s efforts to address the childhood obesity crisis by installing fitness centers in Los Angeles-area middle schools and high schools. Dr. Jonathan Fielding, Distinguished Professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA,

and Matthew Flesock, director of the Sound Body Sound Mind program, were interviewed.

Immunotherapy treatment safe for patients with advanced liver cancer, study finds

[Targeted Oncology](#) featured research led by Dr. Steven Raman, director of Prostate MR Imaging and Interventions and a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, on the use of a genetically modified herpes virus to treat advanced liver cancer. Raman presented the data at the Society of Interventional Radiology's Annual Scientific Meeting.

Dietitian explains why juicing isn't the best way to get nutrients

[MEL Magazine](#) interviewed Dana Hunnes for a story about the health benefits of juicing and foods typically included as ingredients in juices. Hunnes is a senior dietitian at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and an adjunct assistant professor in the department of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

Continued media interest in Depression Grand Challenge

[Inside Higher Ed](#) covered a UCLA campus-wide initiative called the Depression Grand Challenge, a challenge to radically transform how depression is treated, starting with voluntary screening of UCLA's own students. Dr. Nelson Freimer, director of the Center for Neurobehavioral Genetics at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, commented.

Early childhood incarceration linked to later mental, physical health issues

[Medical Xpress](#) and [MyScience.org](#) covered a UCLA study finding that juvenile incarceration for minors at the youngest ages is linked to severe mental and physical health issues in adulthood. Dr. Elizabeth Barnert, an assistant professor of pediatrics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Laura Abrams, a professor and chair of social welfare at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, were the principal investigators.

Researcher receives grant to study IBD

[Science and Technology Research News](#) reported on a grant for Dr. David Padua, an assistant professor of medicine in the UCLA Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases, and a Stanford collaborator to study inflammatory bowel disease.

This week in "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 stories from this past week's column:

- On the uncertainty of cell phone health risks, in South Dakota's [Aberdeen News](#)
 - On cannabis compounds and "the munchies," in Spokane, Washington's [The Spokesman-Review](#)
 - On hypothyroidism and iodine, in Vermont's [Brattleboro Reformer](#)
 - On a recent study on the Mediterranean diet, in California's [Hanford Sentinel](#)
 - On rhinitis, in Scranton, Pennsylvania's [The Times-Tribune](#)
 - On the rarity of cattle eye worm infestation, in Chicago, Illinois' [The Daily Herald](#).
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QUOTED

"Certain activities we do are not absorbing enough to distract from stress. Whereas jogging might be a good healthy sport, you can sometimes still ruminate and be stressed because it doesn't require your sole attention."

- Dr. Anthony Heaney, on [Today.com](#), in a story about stress and weight gain.



Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and co-chief of cardiology, was quoted in a [MedPage Today](#) article on a study that found the heart failure drug sacubitril/valsartan helped improve physical and social limitations related to the disease.

Dr. Anthony Heaney was quoted in a [Today.com](#) article on a study finding that stress might cause weight gain even if people don't eat more. Heaney is a professor of medicine and neurosurgery, co-director of the Pituitary & Neuroendocrine Tumor Program, and Burnett Family Endowed Chair in Neuroendocrinology. [MSN](#) picked up the story.

Dana Hunnes, a senior dietitian at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and an adjunct assistant professor in the department of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted by [Consumer Reports](#) in an article about how to incorporate more leafy greens into your diet.

Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, a professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and of public health at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a [Vox](#) article about gay-dating app Grindr's sharing of its users' HIV status with third-party companies.

Gerald Kominski, a 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 by [California Health Report](#) in a story about a group of state bills that would expand health coverage and reduce health costs.

Dr. James McCracken, director of child and adolescent psychiatry, commented in a [Healthline](#) article about how children diagnosed with ADHD have reduced volume in certain areas of the brain that impact behavioral control.

Dr. Karin Nielsen, a professor of clinical pediatrics in the division of pediatric infectious

diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital, was quoted in [STAT](#) and [Scientific American](#) stories about a new study suggesting that children infected with Zika during infancy could suffer brain damage.

BRIEFS

Becker's Hospital Review featured the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA in two rankings: [one](#) about medical schools with the most competitive acceptance rates and [another](#) about the best medical schools for surgery.

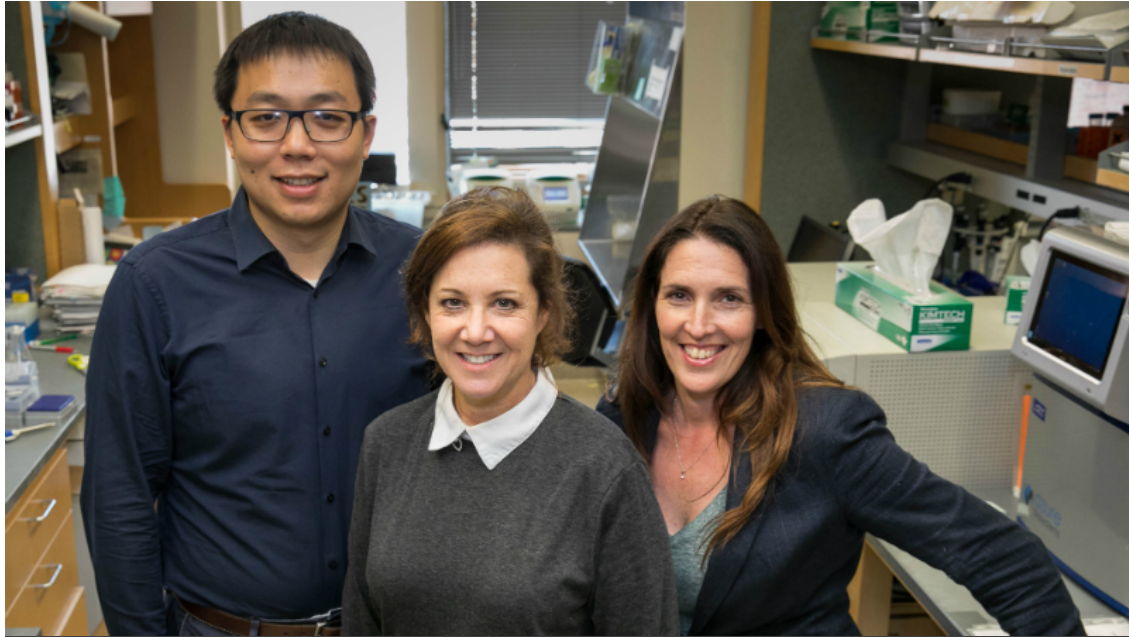
[Chronicle of Philanthropy](#), in a news roundup, referenced a \$20 million gift to UCLA from Eugene and Maxine Rosenfeld, which will enable UCLA Health Sciences to enhance its ability to provide simulation training to future health care professionals and create a state-of-the-art health sciences learning center.

[The Body Pro](#) cited research by Dr. Risa Hoffman, health sciences associate clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases, finding that antiretroviral therapy is safe and well-tolerated among HIV-positive postpartum women.

[Best Health](#), in a story about beauty products and fertility, cited a study authored by researchers at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health finding that perfluorinated chemicals may be associated with infertility in women.

The [Madera County News](#), in a story about diabetes in the county, cited a prediabetes study by the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.

CONTENT CREATED BY MEDIA RELATIONS



[UCLA Newsroom](#): UCLA research could be first step toward healing the hearts of children with Duchenne

(Photo: Dimitris Vetsikas/Pixabay)



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[Cancer researcher honored for work on immunology](#) [UCLA Newsroom](#)



This report features media placements about 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 about 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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