



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of May 5-11, 2017**

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Link between gut microbiota and brain regions

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Zika risk for pregnant women

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Link between gut microbiota and brain regions

[Newsweek](#) and [Health Canal](#) on May 10; [Bioscience Technology](#) and [PsychCentral](#) on May 8; [ScienceAlert](#) on May 6, and [ScienceDaily](#), [MedicalXpress](#) and [News-Medical.Net](#) on May 5 reported on research suggesting an association between gut microbiota and the brain regions involved in processing sensory information. The research also shed light on the connections among childhood trauma, brain development the composition of the gut microbiome. Study senior author 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, was quoted in some of the coverage.

Kaiser Health, NPR report on caregiver “boot camp”

[Kaiser Health News](#) on May 9 and NPR’s “[Here & Now](#)” reported May 5 on The UCLA Improving Caregiving for Dementia Caregiver “Boot Camp,” an interactive one-day program for caregivers of people with Alzheimer’s disease or dementia. The “boot camp” is organized by the UCLA Alzheimer’s and Dementia Care program and offers hands-on workshops. California Healthline, KPCC-FM, Coeur D’Alene Press, Inquirer.net and other outlets carried the reports. Dr. Zaldy Tan, medical director of the UCLA Alzheimer’s and Dementia Care Program, was quoted.

Breast-feeding and infant microbiome study reported widely

[The Scientist](#) and [Newsmax](#) on May 10, [Reuters](#) on May 9, the U.K.’s [Daily Mail](#) on May 8 and 40 other publications worldwide reported on research finding that 30 percent of the beneficial bacteria in infants’ intestines comes directly from mother’s milk, helping lay a foundation for lifelong health. Dr. Grace Aldrovandi, professor of pediatrics and chief of infectious diseases at UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital, led the study and was quoted.

Quality of care for peripheral artery disease is low

[Reuters Health](#) reported May 10 on research co-led by Dr. Joseph Ladapo finding that less than half of those with peripheral artery disease, which is a narrowing of arteries to the limbs, stomach and head, are treated with appropriate medications and lifestyle counseling. Ladapo is assistant professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research.

How at-risk for Zika are pregnant women?

[HealthDay](#) published May 9 a story on a study led by Dr. Rashmi Rao, clinical instructor of obstetrics and gynecology, finding that the risk of Zika infection for pregnant women may be lower than previously thought. [Health.com](#), [WebMD](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), and 130 other outlets carried the story.

Battling the “torment” of rare, undiagnosed diseases

[CNN](#) on May 8 ran a [Kaiser Health News](#) report about a Whittier family’s search for the name of the disorder afflicting their adult son. Results from an extensive week of testing at UCLA suggest a brand-new disease. His physician, Dr. Stanley Nelson, co-director of the UCLA Undiagnosed Disease Network site and professor of human genetics, psychiatry and pediatrics, was featured and quoted.

Daily Mail explores genetic changes linked to low birthweight newborns

The U.K.’s [Daily Mail](#) reported May 4 on a study led by Dr. Sherin Devaskar, Executive Endowed Chair of Pediatrics at UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital and executive director of the UCLA Children’s Discovery and Innovation Institute, finding that genetic changes in the placenta may predict dangerously low

birthweight newborns. The findings could lead to a new test to help obstetricians detect women and babies who may be at risk.

PBS affiliate airs “Remembering Leonard Nimoy”

PBS Boston affiliate TV stations [WBGH-TV](#) and [WGBX-TV](#) aired May 4-7 “Remembering Leonard Nimoy”, a documentary focusing on the actor/director’s life, including his battle with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The film features interviews with Dr. John Belperio, professor of pulmonary and critical care medicine, and Jeffrey Davis, director of respiratory care.

Cannabis research expanding quickly

[Reason TV](#) on May 4 featured Jeffrey Chen, a UCLA medical student and cannabis researcher, discussing the rapidly changing landscape of marijuana research. Chen was one of four panelists examining marijuana policy under the Trump administration.

How nurses can create balance

The May issue of [Working Nurse](#) magazine featured an interview with Karen Grimley, chief nursing officer at UCLA Health and assistant dean of the UCLA School of Nursing, on how nurses can achieve a balance between their professional and personal lives. Grimley also commented in a [sidebar story](#) on steps nurses can take to advance their career.

Questions women should ask about their fetal ultrasound

[Knowridge Science Report](#) on May 7 and [NewsMedical.Net](#) on May 5 featured information on what questions pregnant women can ask to help ensure they are getting an optimal ultrasound of the baby’s heart. Dr. Mark Sklansky, professor and chief of pediatric cardiology, was quoted.

Brain mapping reveals differences in male, female brains

[Science Newsline](#), [Science Daily](#), [MedicalXpress](#) and 12 other outlets on May 10 featured research by Paul Macey, associate professor in the UCLA School of Nursing, revealing that brain mapping showed that women and men’s brains react differently during cardiovascular activity. Macey was quoted in the coverage.

Combination therapy could provide new treatment option for ovarian cancer

[The Stem Cellar](#) blog on May 5 reported on research identifying a potential test that may help determine which ovarian cancer patients would most benefit from a new combination therapy. The therapy could also target cancers that affect other parts of the body. Dr. Sanaz Memarzadeh, professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a member of the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at UCLA, led the study.

Tai chi helps with sleep problems in breast cancer survivors

[MedicalXpress](#), [Science Newsline](#) and [My Science](#) on May 10 highlighted a study showing that tai chi relieves insomnia in breast cancer survivors just as well as cognitive behavioral therapy, and better than medication. The study was led by Dr. Michael Irwin, professor of psychiatry and director of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology at the Semel Institute.

Searching beyond the usual suspects for dry eye

[Review of Ophthalmology](#) published May 10 a commentary coauthored by Dr. David Hollander, an assistant clinical professor at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, about dry-eye syndrome and what triggers it.

Fifth annual Kaleidoscope event raises \$2.35 million for pediatric research

The [Los Angeles Times](#) on May 10, [The Hollywood Reporter](#) on May 8, [People.com](#) and [Zimbo](#) on May 7, the U.K.’s [Daily Mail](#) and [Just Jared](#) on May 6, and over 20 other publications reported on Kaleidoscope: 5, UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital’s annual celebration to generate funding to advance pediatric care and research. This year’s event raised \$2.35 million.

How obesity affects the brain

[HealthDay](#) published May 9 a story about a study led by Arpana Gupta, assistant professor in the Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases, suggesting an altered reward mechanism is involved in overeating and showing differences in brain activity between obese men and obese women. [WebMD](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), and 122 other outlets carried the story.

How clinicians are using social media

[tctMD](#) published May 10 a story about a session featuring Dr. Sheila Sahni, cardiology fellow, at the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI) 2017 Scientific Sessions. Sahni discussed how cardiologists are using social networks like Twitter to engage with others.

The high cost of surviving acute respiratory distress syndrome

[Knowridge Science Report](#) on May 8 reported on a new study finding that 44 percent of people who held jobs before contracting acute respiratory distress syndrome were jobless one year after they were discharged from the hospital, costing them an average of about \$27,000 in earnings. The study's first author, Dr. Biren Kamdar, assistant professor of medicine in the division of pulmonary and critical care, was quoted.

Film produced by UCLA physician draws attention

[CBC.ca](#) published May 4 a feature on "The Promise," a film about the Armenian genocide produced by Dr. Eric Esrailian, co-chief of the Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases.

Opera produced by UCLA Center for Health Services and Society gains additional coverage

The Journal of the American Medical Association reported May 9 on "The Center Cannot Hold," an opera that premiered at UCLA about living with schizophrenia. Dr. Kenneth Wells, professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Center for Health Services and Society at the Semel Institute, composed the opera.

Research links diet to breast cancer

[Nashville Medical News](#) on May 8 featured a study led by Karin Michels, professor and chair of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, finding that an inflammatory diet low in vegetables and high in sugars and red meat can increase a woman's breast cancer risk later in life.

More robust LGBT data collection

[Insurance News Net](#) on May 4 featured a study about LGBT data from the California Health Interview Survey conducted by the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.

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 in more than 50 outlets nationwide. A sampling of the stories from the past week's column:

- On diets rich in anti-inflammatory foods, featured May 10 in [The Brunswick News](#)
- On surgical procedures to clear carotid artery plaque, featured May 9 in [Tulsa World](#)
- On inflammation and healing, featured May 8 in [The Rocky Mount Telegram](#)
- On stress reduction and cardiovascular health, featured May 6 in [Elko Daily Free Press](#)
- On meloxicam effectiveness, featured May 5 in [The Berkshire Eagle](#)
- On the risk of developing meningitis, featured May 5 in [Hanford Sentinel](#)

BRIEFS

A first-person essay about anorexia in the May 8 [Christianity Today](#) referred to research conducted by Dr. Jamie Feusner, director of the Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Program at the Semel Institute, regarding brain abnormalities found in people with body dysmorphic disorder and anorexia.

The Rape Treatment Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was mentioned May 5 in a [KABC-TV](#) segment about “cool kid” Justin Miller, a high-school senior who produced a video and raised \$7,000 to combat campus sexual assault. Miller is donating the proceeds to the center.

[Town & Country](#) on May 8 mentioned the Revlon/UCLA Women’s Cancer Research Program in a story about Ron Perelman and his founding of a performing arts center at the World Trade Center.

[ContagionLive](#) on May 10 published excerpts from an op-ed by Dr. Jonathan Fielding, professor-in-residence at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, about preventing public health disasters. [The Hill](#) originally published the piece.

[Turlock Journal](#) on May 9 cited data from the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in an article about the development of a universal health care bill for California.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Deanna Attai, UCLA breast surgeon based in Burbank and assistant clinical professor of surgery, commented May 6 in a [Vogue.com](#) article on everything women need to know about screening, risk assessment and breast cancer prevention.

Dr. James Cherry, an attending physician in pediatric infectious diseases at UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital, commented May 11 in an [Infectious Disease News](#) story about a Minnesota measles outbreak tied to anti-vaccine rhetoric.

Dr. Steven Dubinett, professor of pathology and laboratory medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted May 9 in a [U.S. News & World Report](#) article discussing how to manage lung cancer side effects.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center and co-chief of the UCLA Division of Cardiology, was quoted May 9 in a [HealthDay](#) article about a new study finding an association between the use of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and an increased risk of heart attack. [U.S. News & World Report](#), [WebMD](#), and 78 other publications syndicated the story.

Dr. Timothy Fong, associate clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and co-director of the UCLA Gambling Studies Program, commented May 3 in a KMSB-TV, Minneapolis, story about how an urge to gamble took over one woman’s life. KMSB-TV: <http://bit.ly/2patU5c>

Dr. Patricia Ganz, distinguished professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Patients and Survivor Program, was quoted May 5 in a [HemOnc Today](#) article about the increased effectiveness of breast cancer survivorship when individual-centered care is prioritized.

Dr. Alison Grimes, director of audiology and newborn hearing screening at UCLA Health, was quoted May 8 in a Reuters Health story about a recent Pediatrics study finding no compelling evidence for children to wear ear protection in the water following ear-tube surgery. The story was syndicated by [Medscape](#) and MD Alert.

Dana Hunnes, senior dietitian at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and adjunct assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted May 11 in a [Huffington Post](#) story about a new study claiming dairy is heart healthy.

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, commented May 4

in a [KXTV-TV](#), Sacramento, report on the cost of the proposed California single-payer health care system.

Dr. Larissa Mooney, associate clinical professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Addiction Medicine Clinic, commented May 8 in a [Psychology Today](#) column about addiction treatment and the need for individualized programs.

Nadereh Pourat, director of research at the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted May 10 in [Gizmodo](#) about unknown side effects of new prescription drugs and May 4 by [KPCC-FM](#) about the history of establishing high-risk health insurance pools in California.

Nanthia Suthana, assistant professor of neurosurgery and psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Semel Institute, commented May 9 in a [Wearable](#) story about the promise and limitations of virtual-reality video in capturing events and triggering memory recall.

Dr. Laura Wherry was quoted May 9 in a [Reuters Health](#) article about a study finding that Americans who bought health insurance on their own or in government marketplaces were less likely to experience a qualified medical financial burden under the Affordable Care Act than before the law took effect. Wherry is an assistant professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research.

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