



## UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT

June 16 - 22, 2017

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### UCLA team performs dramatic double surgical rescue

KNBC-TV and KTTV-TV (Los Angeles) covered the story of a pregnant woman who was airlifted to UCLA for an emergency C-section followed immediately by an open-heart surgery to repair a tear in her artery. Her physicians, Dr. Richard Shemin, chief of cardiac surgery, and Dr. Carla Janzen, assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, were interviewed.

KNBC-TV: <http://bit.ly/2suAcSl>

KTTV-TV: <http://bit.ly/2rVnyNt>

### Rare genetic variants linked to Tourette syndrome

The [International Business Times](#) and KABC-AM on June 21, and KTTV-TV on June 22, featured research led by UCLA and Massachusetts General Hospital, identifying the first definitive genes associated with Tourette syndrome. The article quoted Dr. Giovanni Coppola, co-senior author of the study and a professor of psychiatry and neurology at UCLA's Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior. Coverage of the research also appeared in [My News LA](#), [Science Daily](#), [GenomeWeb](#) and [Medical Express](#).

KTTV-TV: <http://bit.ly/2rW0sGf>

KABC-AM: <http://bit.ly/2sYTG2T>

### Choking expert warns parents about summer toy craze

CBS Newspath interviewed Dr. Nina Shapiro, a professor of head and neck surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and the director of pediatric otolaryngology at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, about the choking hazards posed by fidget-spinner toys. The segment was syndicated June 19 and June 20 by 255 broadcast and online news outlets, including CBS This Morning; CBS affiliates in [Los Angeles](#), [New York](#), Baltimore, Miami and Pittsburgh; [Tech Times](#); and [Inquisitr](#).

CBS This Morning: <http://bit.ly/2rYNQcR>

### Stress plays no gender favorites in heart disease

[UPI](#) reported June 16 on a UCLA study finding that the link between stress and coronary heart disease appears similar in both genders, though women displayed higher levels of stress hormones in their urine than men. The study also showed that the stress hormone dopamine was inversely related to heart risk.

### Using science to advance concussion debate

[Science Daily](#) reported June 21 on a commentary published in *Neuron* by Dr. Christopher Giza, director of the UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program and a professor of pediatrics, neurology and neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, about how neuroscientific research can advance understanding of concussion. [Medical Xpress](#) and [My Science](#) also covered the article.

### HealthDay offers jet-lag prevention tips

[HealthDay](#) published an article June 19 featuring tips from Dr. Alon Avidan, director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Center, about how to avoid jet lag during summer travel. The article was syndicated by the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) and [Health.com](#).

### Op-ed: Opioid crisis is growing worse

[U.S. News & World Report](#) published a June 15 op-ed by Dr. Jonathan Fielding, a professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, about the rising number of deaths due to overdoses of prescription opioid drugs.

#### **New procedures to treat irregular heartbeat**

[MedPage Today](#) published a story June 19 about research by Dr. Marmar Vaseghi, assistant professor of cardiology, finding that denervation may reduce recurrent ventricular arrhythmia.

#### **Philadelphia TV showcases IMG program**

WPVI-TV (Philadelphia) reported June 21 on the UCLA International Medical Graduate (IMG) program, which helps legal U.S. residents who are medical-school graduates from Latin America earn their California medical licenses. In exchange, the physician commits to practicing in one of the state's underserved communities after completing a family-medicine residency. Dr. Michelle Bholat, executive director of the program and executive vice chair of family medicine at UCLA, commented. A June 19 [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#) story, which also ran in the Whittier Daily News, cited the program.  
WPVI-TV: <http://bit.ly/2sXMFIT>

#### **Media spotlight living kidney donor-recipient pair**

Reports from KADN-TV (Louisiana) on June 18 and KQTV-TV (Missouri) on June 19 featured UCLA patients Ted and Denice Lombard, who in 1967 became one of the first father-daughter duos to undergo successful kidney transplant surgery in the United States. Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, medical director of the kidney and pancreas transplant program, and Dr. H. Albin Gritsch, surgical director of the program, were quoted.

KADN: <http://bit.ly/2t0IMZV>

KQTV: <http://bit.ly/2sGFAAd>

#### **Using probiotics for clear skin**

Modern Medicine's [Dermatology Times](#) on June 6 featured research presented by Huiying Li, an associate professor of pharmacology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, outlining the value of good bacteria in preventing acne. The coverage was syndicated June 15 by [MedPage Today](#). Li was quoted.

#### **Importance of full-body skin exams debated**

[Cure Today](#) interviewed Dr. Philip Scumpia, assistant professor of dermatology and pathology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, on June 19 about whether doctors should recommend annual full-body skin exams for high-risk patients.

#### **Caregiver "boot camp" stirs additional media interest**

A recent [Kaiser Health News](#) story 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, ran June 20 on [NewsOK](#).

#### **CMV increases risk of mother-to-child HIV transmission**

[MyScience](#) on June 21 and [News-Medical.Net](#) on June 22 covered research finding that HIV-positive women with cytomegalovirus in their urine at the time of labor and delivery are five times more likely than HIV-positive women without CMV to transmit HIV to their infants. Dr. Karin Nielsen, a professor of clinical pediatrics in the division of infectious diseases, led the study.

#### **HuffPo explores environmental lessons learned in Europe**

[The Huffington Post](#) on June 19 published an op-ed by Dana Hunnes, adjunct assistant professor of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and senior dietitian at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, about how sustainable infrastructure in Europe compare to those in the United States.

#### **A deep dive into West Hollywood residents' health**

[WeHoville](#) ran a June 15 story about physical health being more robust than mental health in West Hollywood. The findings were based on data from the California Health Interview Survey, conducted by the UCLA Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.

### **UCLA nurse to speak at nursing oncology conference**

[Oncology Nursing News](#) reported June 19 on an upcoming conference at which Grace Cherry, a nurse practitioner at UCLA Health, will deliver a presentation about melanoma therapies.

### **This week on “Ask the Doctors”**

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

- On how antibacterial products offer no resistance to viruses, featured June 21 in [Tulsa World](#)
- On how gut bacteria affects health, featured June 20 in [Indiana Gazette](#)
- On high-intensity workouts boosting cellular function, featured June 17 in [Hanford Sentinel](#)
- On turmeric supplements, featured June 16 in [Bennington Banner](#)
- On probiotics and digestion, featured June 16 in [The Cumberland Times-News](#)
- On making the most out of doctor’s appointments, featured June 15 in [Elko Daily Free Press](#).

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## **NOTABLE QUOTABLES**

Steve Cole, a professor of medicine and psychiatry at UCLA’s Semel Institute, commented in a June 16 [New Scientist](#) article about mindfulness and meditation dampening inflammation genes. The article also appeared in India Live Today.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center and co-chief of cardiology, commented June 20 in a [Reuters Health](#) article about research finding that statin therapy is safe for diabetic and pre-diabetic people with a condition called non-alcoholic steatohepatitis.

Dr. Maria Garcia-Lloret, an associate professor of pediatrics in the allergy and immunology division of UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital, commented in a [New York Times](#) story exploring whether air conditioners cause sinus congestion. The article was syndicated June 15 by the U.K.’s [Globe and Mail](#).

Alison Grimes, director of audiology and newborn hearing screening for UCLA Health, commented May 25 in a [Forbes](#) story about the difficulty people have in acknowledging hearing loss. [Audiology World News](#) syndicated the story on June 21.

Dr. Jody Heymann, dean of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and founding director of the WORLD Policy Analysis Center, was quoted June 19 in a [Slate](#) article about studies analyzing paid family-leave systems worldwide.

Dr. Lynne McCullough, medical director of the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center emergency department, commented about the destructive consequences of a single gunshot to the pelvis in an article syndicated by 10 outlets nationwide, including the [Chicago Tribune](#), [Boston Globe](#) and [MSN](#). The original article was published in the Washington Post.

Dr. Larissa Mooney, director of the UCLA Addiction Medicine Clinic, commented in a June 19 [Mercury News](#) article about the boom in addiction treatment. Cost is not a proxy for quality, she said. The article also ran in the [Los Angeles Daily News](#) and [San Bernardino County Sun](#).

Dr. Leena Nathan, obstetrician-gynecologist at UCLA Health-Westlake Village, commented in a June 16 [Vogue.com](#) article about organic tampons.

Nadereh Pourat, director of research at the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, commented June 20 in [Healthcare Financial Management Association](#) about a reported rise in emergency-room use after passage of the Affordable Care Act. Pourat also was quoted June 21 in [Healthline](#) and June 22 in [Kaiser Health News](#) about the revised American Health Care Act.

Dr. Gary Small, director of geriatric psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, commented June 22 in [WebMD](#) about strategies to prevent age-related dementia and memory loss.

Dr. Elizabeth Volkmann, assistant professor of medicine in the division of rheumatology, commented June 15 in the [Los Angeles Wave](#) about a woman who has the autoimmune disease scleroderma.

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## NOTABLE BRIEFS

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica's Rape Treatment Center and Stuart House facilities for adult and child sexual-assault victims were cited in a June 21 [Forbes](#) profile of fashion designer John Varvatos, who hosts an annual benefit for Stuart House.

The July edition of *Prevention* cited research by Dr. Arun Karlamangla, professor of medicine in the division of geriatrics, finding that mental acuity in women begins to decline as early as age 50.

[The Huffington Post](#) on June 21 cited data from the Fielding School's WORLD Policy Analysis Center about child marriage and spousal abuse.

The [Santa Maria Sun](#) on June 21 cited UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital and the UCLA Blood & Platelet Center in a story about a Lompoc teen battling leukemia.

[Newsmax](#) on June 18 cited research conducted by the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition on capsaicin and its effect on metabolism.

[Eat This, Not That!](#) on June 20 referenced a study by the UCLA Department of Neurology finding that the brains of obese people resemble those of older people.

The June 16 [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) cited Dr. Donald Kohn's stem-cell gene therapy that corrects the gene mutation responsible for bubble-baby disease. He is a professor of pediatrics at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital and a member of the Broad Stem Cell Research Center and Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

UCLA Health was cited in a June 21 [MedCity News](#) article about the rising trend of medical clinics in malls.

[Arizona Republic](#) on June 21 cited data from the California Health Interview Survey, administered by the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, in a story about a Phoenix clinic that serves immigrant and undocumented populations. [Kaiser Health News](#) ran a brief of the story on June 22.

[Los Angeles Daily News](#) on June 16 published a letter to the editor about single-payer health insurance that cited research from the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.

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