UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT  
For the week of July 12-18, 2013

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LA Times, Other Media Remember Founder of Geriatrics Program

Women's Health Magazine Probes Dietary Supplements Study

Web Site Compares Subway and McDonald's

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MSN on How to Sleep Well When You're Hot and Bothered

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The Associated Press, United Press International, CBS Evening News, KCBS–Channel 2, KNBC-Channel 4, KTLA-Channel 5, KABC-Channel 7, KCAL-Channel 9, KMEX-Channel 34, KVEA-Channel 52, CNN, the Huffington Post, Pasadena Star-News, KFWB 980AM, KPCC 89.9FM, Santa Monica Patch, Westwood–Century City Patch and the San Gabriel Valley Tribune, among others, reported July 16 that the UCLA Health System’s hospitals in Westwood and Santa Monica have been named to U.S. News and World Report’s exclusive annual Best Hospitals Honor Roll list. Examiner.com, Santa Monica Mirror, Santa Monica Daily Press and KTTV’s “Good Morning L.A.” reported the news July 17. Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and associate vice chancellor for health sciences, and Dr. A. Eugene Washington, vice chancellor for health sciences and dean of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, were quoted in some of the coverage.

LA Times, Other Media Remember Founder of Geriatrics Program
The Thousand Oaks Acorn July 16, The Boston Herald July 15, the Los Angeles Times July 14, and the Web site of the American Geriatrics Society July 12 noted the passing of Dr. David Solomon, who led a major expansion of the UCLA Department of Medicine, created the campus’ geriatrics program to deal effectively with the unique healthcare needs of the elderly, and was the first board certified endocrinologist in Los Angeles.

Women’s Health Magazine Probes Dietary Supplements Study
Women’s Health magazine July 15 spotlighted research led by Dr. Derjung Tarn, associate professor of family medicine, finding that primary care physicians overall do a poor job of communicating information about dietary supplements to their patients.

Web Site Compares Subway and McDonald’s
Rocket News reported July 15 on research by Dr. Lenard Lesser, a former Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar in the department of family medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, finding that adolescents who purchased Subway meals consumed nearly as many calories as they did at McDonald’s despite the fact that Subway promotes itself as the “healthy” fast food restaurant.

Intervention for Sexual Trauma and Intervention
Medical Xpress, ScienceBlog, Sierra Sun Times, News-Medical.net and MDLinx reported July 16 on research led by Dorothy Chin, associate research psychologist at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, on HIV-positive women who were sexually abused as children finding that the more severe their past trauma, the greater their improvement in an intervention program designed to ease their psychological suffering. The research suggests that such interventions should be tailored to individuals' experience and that a “one size fits all” approach may not be enough to successfully reduce women's depression, post-traumatic stress and anxiety symptoms.

Health Sites Examine Religiosity and Obesity
MDLinx July 17 and Medical Xpress July 18 reported on research led by Dr. Nazleen Bharmal, assistant professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, examining
the relationship between religious practices and obesity among Indian immigrants and suggesting that religiosity in Hindus and Sikhs — but not Muslims — appears to be an independent factor associated with being overweight or obese.

UCLA Hospitals and Patient Experience

Health Leaders reported July 16 on steps that the UCLA Health System has taken to ensure a positive patient experience — particularly for low-income and ethnically diverse patient populations. Dr. David Feinberg, president of the UCLA Health System and associate vice chancellor for health sciences, was quoted.

Healthy Lifestyle Makes for Good Memories

Dr. Gary Small, the Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, was featured in NewsmaxHealth July 17 regarding a study he conducted with the Gallup organization showing that healthy eating, regular exercise and not smoking were related to better self-perceived memory abilities for most adult groups. Small also provides tips on improving brain health.

Gynecologist’s Commentary Addresses Misconceptions about Rape Kits

Santa Monica Daily Press July 15 published a guest commentary by Dr. Amy Rosenman, UCLA gynecologist and medical consultant to the Rape Treatment Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, addressing lawmakers’ comments on rape kits.

Geriatrician Authors Health Column with Tips to Prevent Overheating

The July 12 Santa Monica Mirror published a health column by Dr. Grace Chen, staff geriatrician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica and assistant clinical professor of medicine, featuring tips to help older adults keep from overheating during hot weather.

Growth, Not Just Size, Boosts Aneurysm Risk

Research by Dr. J. Pablo Villablanca, chief of diagnostic neuroradiology, finding that brain aneurysms of all sizes are up to 12 times more likely to burst if they are growing, was reported July 12 by Medscape Medical News. Villablanca was quoted.

Safeguarding the Blood Supply

Dr. Alyssa Ziman, medical director of the UCLA Blood & Platelet Center, was interviewed live July 12 by KPCC 89.3FM’s “Take Two” show about the history behind the Food and Drug Administration’s 1977 ban against blood donations by men who have sex with men. She described some of the hurdles the FDA faces in updating its policy while keeping the blood supply safe from infectious diseases.

Gut Bacteria Link to Lymphoma Risk Goes Wide On Web

MedicalXpress, Health Canal, Endonurse, Alaska Native News, Inagist, Breakthrough Digest, AllTop, NCI Cancer Center News, Examiner.com, Science Daily, and Money Networkers July 16; and The Burbank Independent, Medical News Today, Cyber Network News, Health Today, TV Balla, Cusabio and others reported July 17 on a UCLA study that found a link between intestinal bacteria and lymphoma risk. The study’s leader, Dr. Robert Schiestl, professor in the departments of pathology and laboratory medicine, environmental health sciences, and radiation oncology and member of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted in the coverage.

Jonsson Cancer Center Rated Among Top Cancer Centers in U.S.

News-Medical.net reported July 17 that U.S. News & World Report has ranked UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center among the top 12 cancer centers in the nation.

Stem Cell Gene Therapy for Sickle Cell Disease Continues to Garner Coverage

L.A. Sentinel July 11 and the Baltimore Times July 12 reported on a breakthrough study from UCLA’s Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research demonstrating a stem cell gene therapy for sickle cell disease that is ready to begin clinical trials early in 2014. The study’s leader, Dr. Donald Kohn, professor of pediatrics and microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics in the life sciences, was quoted in the coverage.
Lifestyle Recommendations Reduce Risk of Aggressive Prostate Tumors

Medscape July 11 featured a study from UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center (JCCC) that found adherence to lifestyle guidelines from the World Cancer Research Fund reduced the risk of more aggressive tumors in prostate cancer patients. Dr. Lenore Arab, JCCC member and professor in the departments of medicine and biological chemistry who led the study, was quoted in the coverage.

Helping our Nation’s Wounded Warriors
Melanie Gideon, manager of the UCLA Operation Mend program, did a live interview July 18 with KAHI 950AM (Sacramento) to discuss the free reconstructive surgery and other medical services that Operation Mend offers to wounded warriors injured in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

MSN on How to Sleep Well When You’re Hot and Bothered
Dr. Alon Avidan, professor of neurology and director of the Sleep Disorders Program, was featured in a July 18 MSN.com article about strategies to get a good night’s sleep when it’s hot.

KABC and Huff Post Send Note to Teens: Just Breathe
Dara Ghahremani, an assistant psychiatry researcher at the Semel Institute, was featured July 14 by the Huffington Post and July 16 by KABC-Channel 7 regarding his study that found that teens who completed a four-week stress-management workshop that included yoga-based breathing techniques were better able to control impulsive thoughts and behaviors.

Examiner Questions Sex Addiction
Nicole Prause, a researcher in the department of psychiatry, and director of the Sexual Psychophysiology and Affective Neuroscience (SPAN) Laboratory at the Semel Institute, was featured in the July 17 Examiner.com regarding her research that questioned whether hypersexuality, or sex addiction, was a valid mental disorder. Prause used electroencephalogram (EEG) to measure how the brain responded in a group of people who admitted having problems regulating their viewing of sex pictures, and found their response was only predicted by normal sexual desire alone.

KPCC Explores the Mystery of Hospital Pricing
Dylan Roby, director of the health economics and evaluation research program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in the Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed July 16 by KPCC 89.3FM about the significant disparities in prices charged by different hospitals for the same procedures.

Alzheimer’s Weekly Digs Deep to Cure the Brain Disorder
Dr. Arthur Toga, professor of neurology and director of the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging (LONI) in the UCLA Department of Neurology, was cited in a July 14 Alzheimer’s Weekly article that highlighted the Alzheimer’s Disease Neuroimaging Initiative, which is performing whole-genome sequencing of more than 800 Alzheimer's patients with the help of the LONI lab.

Santa Clarita Valley News Spotlights Nursing School Partnership
The Santa Clarita Valley News July 15 and Becker’s Hospital Review July 17 reported on a new partnership between the UCLA School of Nursing and Children’s Hospital Los Angeles that will bring together nurses from both institutions for a variety of collaborative initiatives aimed at improving clinical practice and promoting education and research. Courtney H. Lyder, dean of the UCLA School of Nursing, was quoted.

Brain Injuries and Football
A Chronicle of Higher Education article on July 17 references research led by Gary Small, the Parlow–Solomon Professor on Aging at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, in which researchers found elevated levels of the Alzheimer's disease–related tau protein in the brains of five retired football players who had suffered one or more concussions.

Nobel Laureate’s Message: Persistence Pays Off
The Korea Times reported July 17 on a mentoring program created by Nobel laureate Dr. Louis J. Ignarro, professor of molecular and medical pharmacology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. According to the article, Ignarro told students, in part, that "passion for your study and constant effort" are essential for success as a researcher.

**Seniors Struggle to Raise Grandkids**

An article in the July 16 Los Angeles Daily News referenced a study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research showing that grandparents raising grandkids in California may be among the most vulnerable residents in the state, due to the high cost of living and low levels of public assistance. Study co-author Steven P. Wallace, associate director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and chair of community health sciences at UCLA’s Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted.

**BRIEFS**

UCLA Health System was noted in a July 12 Los Angeles Times article on privacy breaches involving patient medical records that was also picked up by numerous other news outlets.

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was referenced in a July 16 Santa Monica Mirror story about a fundraiser being held for a local resident who was injured in a swimming accident.

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was cited June 10 by CNN Money as one of four hospitals in California using the RP-VITA robot to monitor critically ill patients in real time from a remote location.

Research by Andrew J. Fuligni, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was cited in a July 14 Career Alley article showing that cramming for tests and not sleeping enough had a negative effect on high school students’ academic performance.

**QUOTABLES**

Dr. Eric Esrailian, assistant clinical professor of digestive diseases, was quoted July 15 in an NBC News.com article about how aspirin may lower the risk of colon cancer in women.

Dr. Marlena Fejzo, assistant professor of medicine in the division of hematology–oncology, was quoted July 15 in a Toronto Globe and Mail article about the health risks of severe morning sickness.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, UCLA’s Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted July 16 in a HealthDay News article about obesity and heart disease risk. The article was also picked up by U.S. News & World Report.

Sandra Loo, associate professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a July 15 Los Angeles Times article about the approval by the FDA of the use of an electroencephalogram (EEG) device that analyzes brain activity to help confirm a diagnosis of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD, in children.

Dr. Mario Mendez, professor of neurology at the Semel Institute, was quoted in the July 17 Los Angeles Times about an otherwise healthy man who suddenly lost his memory and speaks in a foreign tongue.

David J. Miklowitz, professor of psychiatry and director of the Child and Adolescent Mood Disorders Program at the Semel Institute, was quoted July 8 in an EverydayHealth.com story about the reasons adolescents recovering from mental disorders stop taking their prescribed medications.

Dr. Karen Miotto, professor of clinical psychiatry and director of the Alcoholism and Addiction Medicine Service at the Semel Institute, was quoted in a July 17 Associated Press report about the death of actor Cory Monteith. Miotto commented on why addicts frequently relapse after receiving treatment.
Dr. Mark Morocco, professor of medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and associate residency director of emergency medicine at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, was quoted July 15 in a National Geographic article about the dangers of intense summer heat. He also commented July 17 in a Los Angeles Times story about the effects of a hunger strike on the human body.

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