



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of July 24-30, 2015

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Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Guidelines and Patient Outcomes

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Determining Risk for Autism or Psychosis in Patients with DiGeorge Syndrome

New UCLA-University of Texas Checklist Helps Identify Children, Teens with Bereavement Disorder

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LA Times Features New Venice Family Clinic Pediatric Center

The [Los Angeles Times](#) featured July 27 an article highlighting UCLA-affiliated Venice Family Clinic's newest health center for infants, children and teens. The Lou Colen Children's Health and Wellness Center is located in Mar Vista where an estimated 6,000 youth do not have regular access to health care. Designed with children in mind, the patient-centered medical home includes warm and innovative elements like themed exam rooms, an indoor forest book nook and a community teaching kitchen. Laney Kagan, the clinic's chief development officer, was quoted.

A Win for Vaccines, but Worries Remain

The [Wall Street Journal](#) published July 23 an opinion piece authored by Dr. Nina Shapiro, a professor of head and neck surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, which examined whether vaccination exemptions would continue to proliferate despite Gov. Jerry Brown's signing of SB277 last month.

Medically Unnecessary Advanced Imaging Studies in the ER

[The Boston Globe](#) reported July 26 on research led by Dr. Hemal Kanzaria, an emergency medicine physician at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and a Veterans Affairs/Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar. The study provided insights into why physicians order radiology tests they consider "medically unnecessary" and offered potential solutions to overcoming this problem.

Cardiologist Discusses Statins

Dr. Karol Watson, professor of medicine in the division of cardiology and co-director of the UCLA Center for Cholesterol and Lipid Management, was featured July 27 in a [Wall Street Journal](#) story about alternatives to the statins that people use to control their cholesterol levels.

Telemundo Profiles Former Gangster Turned Physician

Harbor-UCLA Medical Center surgery resident Dr. James Maciel, a former UCLA medical student who overcame poverty, gang connections, a juvenile crime record and teen fatherhood to achieve his dream of becoming a physician, was profiled July 26 on [Telemundo](#).

Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Guidelines and Patient Outcomes

[HealthCanal](#) July 27, [MedicalXpress](#) July 28 and [News-Medical.com](#) July 30 reported on research led by Dr. Aaron Dawes, a general surgery resident at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar, finding that hospitals' compliance with Brain Trauma Foundation guidelines for treating traumatic brain injuries does not necessarily translate into better patient outcomes. Dawes was quoted.

Alzheimer's Study Draws Attention

[Drug Discovery and Development](#), [Examiner.com](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [News-Medical.net](#) and [NewsMax](#) reported July 29 on a study by Dr. Varghese John that found a naturally occurring protein inhibits an enzyme linked to the onset of Alzheimer's. John is an associate professor of neurology and principle investigator of the Drug Discovery Lab in the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research at UCLA.

Determining Risk for Autism or Psychosis in Patients with DiGeorge Syndrome

New findings into DiGeorge syndrome conducted in the lab run by Dr. Carrie Bearden, a professor of psychiatry and psychology at the Semel Institute, were reported July 26 in [Drug Discovery & Development](#), July 27 in [MedicalXpress](#) and [Science Daily](#), and July 28 in [News-Medical](#) and [PsychCentral](#).

New UCLA-University of Texas Checklist Helps Identify Children, Teens with Bereavement Disorder

A new diagnostic tool developed by Dr. Christopher Layne, a psychologist and researcher at the Semel Institute, and Dr. Robert Pynoos, a UCLA professor in residence of psychiatry, received attention July 23 in [BioNews Texas](#) and July 24 in [Medical News Today](#), [Imperial Valley News](#) and [Healio](#).

Fielding School's Robert Schiestl Named "Lifetime VIP"

Dr. Robert Schiestl, professor with joint appointments in environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and pathology in the UCLA Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, was featured July 29 in [KCENTV.com](#) about his recent distinction as "Lifetime VIP" by America's Registry of Outstanding Professionals.

Ethnicity and Race Play Role in Patients who Receive Colonoscopies

Research about associations between colonoscopies and the rate of those who receive them in the context of their race and ethnicity conducted by Dr. Brennan Spiegel, professor-in-residence at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured July 28 in a [Healio](#) article.

Breakthrough Experimental Therapy for Colon Cancer and Chronic IBD

[IBD](#) July 28 and [MedicalXpress](#) July 29 reported on UCLA researchers finding a new chemical inhibitor able to block a molecule involved in the transmission of genetic information. UCLA scientists hope the research will assist physicians in treating colon cancer and inflammatory bowel disease. Dr. Dimitrios Iliopoulos, associate professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Gene Regulation Program, was quoted.

Smartphone Device Reads Medical Tests Quickly and Accurately

[Health Canal](#) July 27 and [Controlled Environments](#) July 28 reported on a diagnostic tool created by a 3-D printer that can identify viruses and bacteria in blood samples. The smartphone device can detect a number of diseases, including HIV, West Nile virus and hepatitis B, and it is widely used in hospitals. It can also be used to identify potential allergens in food, among other applications. Dr. Dino DiCarlo, associate professor of bioengineering and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Cancer Nanotechnology Program and of the California NanoSystems Institute at UCLA, was quoted.

Honoring Organ, Eye and Tissue Donors

[Westside Today](#) and [Santa Monica Mirror](#) featured July 28 a ceremony with UCLA Health and One Legacy, an organ procurement organization, to honor these special donors who became organ, eye and tissue donors at the time of their deaths at Reagan UCLA Medical Center or at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. At the ceremony, the Gift of Life Fountain, located at Reagan UCLA Medical Center's Garden of Peace, was dedicated and special engraved medallions honoring past donors were tossed into the water. Donor names will also be added to an online donor recognition webpage. Dr. Paul Vespa, director of neurocritical care at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and a professor of neurosurgery and neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; Rev. Karen Schnell, director of spiritual care at UCLA Health; and Barbara Anderson, unit director of the Neuroscience/Trauma Intensive Care Unit at UCLA, were quoted.

Journalist Encourages Latinos to Donate Blood, Platelets

Univision's "Primera Hora" spotlighted July 27 reporter Nataly Valenzuela as she donated platelets live on the air at the UCLA Blood & Platelet Center. UCLA staff members Barbara Calloway, Jessica Godoy, Gabriela Alarcon and Eric Carpio were featured.

BRIEFS

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was mentioned July 29 in a [Consumer Reports](#) article about hospital infection rates.

The anticipated participation by Dr. Carrie Bearden, a professor of psychiatry and psychology at the Semel Institute, in Napa Valley's Sept. 19 Music Festival for Brain Health was mentioned July 28 in the [St. Helena Star](#).

A July 28 article in [TIME](#) about access to healthy lifestyle resources cited Dr. Paul Simon, adjunct professor of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and referenced a Zócalo Public Square event in which Dr. Roshan Bastani, professor of health policy and management at the Fielding School, was one of three panel members.

Findings about the California obesity rate from the California Health Interview Survey conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited July 27 in [Health.am](#), July 16 in [California Healthcare News](#) and July 24 in the [Appeal-Democrat](#).

Research led by Dr. Neal Halfon, director of the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, on how parental expectations affect the future success of a child, was cited July 30 by [Women's Weekly](#).

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was referenced July 24 in a [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) article as being a community partner with Meals on Wheels West, which delivers food to frail or homebound seniors on the Westside, including some recently discharged hospital patients. The medical center was also referenced July 27 in a [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) article on Santa Monica High School's salutatorian. The young man, who will attend UCLA in the fall, volunteered at the Santa Monica campus for three years.

Dr. Ronald Busuttil, William P. Longmire, Jr. Chair in Surgery and director of the Pflieger Liver Institute and Dumont-UCLA Transplant and Liver Cancer Centers at UCLA, and Dr. Khalil Tabsh, clinical professor and vice chair of obstetrics and gynecology, were mentioned July 29 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) story about University of California compensation.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Mary-Lynn Brecht, a researcher and statistical support specialist for the UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs, was quoted July 26 in a [Texas Tribune](#) article about a rise in methamphetamine addiction in Texas.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was quoted July 27 in a [HealthDay News](#) story about a study suggesting that wide blood pressure fluctuations may signal an increased risk of heart disease and early death. He was also quoted July 29 in a [HealthDay News](#) story about an experimental drug that dramatically lowers blood levels of potentially harmful triglycerides.

Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of cancer prevention and control research at the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health contributed comments to a July 27 [Oncology Times](#) article about managing the costs of differing cancer treatments. She was also quoted July 25 in a [Healio](#) article about improving communication about sexual function with cancer patients.

Dr. Gerald Kominski, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health was quoted July 27 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about increases in California health insurance premiums. He was also quoted July 29 in an [International Business Times](#) article about the role of pharmacists in healthcare. The Times article was republished July 28 in [Cal Coast News](#)

Dr. Zhaoping Li, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, commented June 17 in a [WebMD](#) article about genetics and weight.

Dr. Dylan Roby, senior research scientist at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and assistant professor of health policy and management at UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted July 27 in an [Orange County Register](#) article about an announcement by Covered California that insurance premiums will increase 4 percent in 2016.

Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor of Aging, professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, was quoted July 20 in [Healthy Travel Blog](#) about the importance of remaining unplugged – or ditching such communication technology as email, mobile phones and social media – during vacations.

Dr. Michael Strober, director of the Eating Disorders Program at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented July 27 in a [New York Times](#) "Well" blog that explored links between cancer and eating disorders.

Dr. Eric Vilain, a professor of human genetics, pediatrics and urology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and co-director of the UCLA Center for Society and Genetics, commented July 29 in the [New York Times](#) about a female Indian athlete with naturally elevated testosterone levels who won a lawsuit permitting her to compete as a woman without undergoing surgery or hormonal therapy.

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