UCLA Health

UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Aug. 11 - 17, 2017

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.

Futurism: Activating stem cells to treat baldness
(Photo credit: UCLA Broad Stem Cell Center/Nature Cell Biology)
Activating stem cells to treat baldness
Futurism reported on UCLA research that identified a new way to activate hair follicle stem cells to make hair grow. Yahoo! News, The Philly Voice, Daily Mail, The Sierra Sun Times, ScienceDaily, Nature World News, Digital Trends and 47 other outlets also covered the discovery. UCLA Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research members Heather Christofk, associate professor of biological chemistry and molecular and medical pharmacology, and Bill Lowry, a professor of molecular, cell and developmental biology, led the research. The Futurism article has been shared more than 10,000 times via social media, including to Futurism’s 5.9 million followers on Facebook.

Kombucha may not be the health drink it’s cracked up to be
VICE’s Tonic published a story on the health benefits of, and misconceptions about, kombucha that featured Dr. Zhaoping Li, director at UCLA’s Center for Human Nutrition. The article has been shared almost 8,000 times on social media.

The facts behind the state-wide surge in patients on dialysis
California Healthline featured Dr. Anjay Rastogi in an article about new data showing a 46 percent rise over eight years in the number of kidney patients in California seeking treatment at dialysis centers. HealthLeaders Media, Kaiser Health News, Inquirer.net and Asian Journal also ran the article. Rastogi is clinical chief of the UCLA Division of Nephrology and director of the UCLA Dialysis/ESRD Program.

What’s at the root of balding?
Wall Street Journal published a story on the science behind balding that featured Dr. Carolyn Goh, assistant clinical professor in the division of dermatology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and founder of the UCLA Hair and Scalp Disorders Clinic.

Wired spotlights a cleaner way to die
The September 2017 U.K. edition of Wired showcased the UCLA Donated Body Program
in a story about alkaline hydrolysis as an alternative to burial and cremation. Dean Fisher, program director, was featured in the accompanying video and photos, and quoted throughout the article.

**Depictions of autism in pop culture**
*Daily Mail* published a story on the reception to the Netflix show “Atypical” and how it portrays autism. Dr. Shafali Jeste, associate professor in psychiatry, neurology and pediatrics, was the featured expert.

**How to see the solar eclipse without vision damage**
*The Orange County Register* featured Dr. Colin McCannel, associate professor of ophthalmology at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, in a story advising how to protect one’s eyes during next week’s solar eclipse. The story was syndicated by 10 other outlets, including the Los Angeles Daily News, SGVT.com and Riverside’s Press Enterprise.

**The science behind feeling butterflies in your stomach**
*Toronto Star Newspaper* published a story about the sensation of butterflies in the stomach and how emotions can play out as symptoms in the gut. 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 a featured expert. The story was picked up by Metro News Canada, Brampton Guardian, Mississauga.com, TheRecord.com and OurWindsor.ca.

**Measuring the safety of vaginal estrogens**
UPI, Monthly Prescribing Reference, News-Medical.net, myScience, South Asia’s ANI News, EBL News and 10 other publications reported on research led by Dr. Carolyn Crandall finding that post-menopausal women who use a vaginal form of estrogen therapy do not have a higher risk of cardiovascular disease and cancer than women who use no estrogen. Crandall is a professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research.

**Testing for gonorrhea**
VICE’s *Tonic* highlighted a UCLA laboratory test in a report on research into treatments for sexually transmitted infections. Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and professor of public health at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was senior author of a study describing the test and was quoted.

**UCLA names new director of cancer center**
*My Science.org* featured Dr. Michael Teitell, professor in the departments of pathology, laboratory medicine and pediatrics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, for his appointment as the new director of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

**New findings pave way for three-drug combo to treat childhood leukemia**
*Medical Xpress* and *My Science.org* published stories about research on an investigational triple combination treatment for acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Dr. Caius Radu, professor in the departments of molecular and medical pharmacology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and member of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, led the study.

**Why your jaw may feel sore in the morning**
A Refinery29 story on morning jaw pain featured Dr. Robert Merrill, health sciences clinical professor and residency director for orofacial pain at the UCLA School of Dentistry.

Dietitian weighs in on the safety of juice cleanses Healthline interviewed Dana Hunnes for a story on the safety of fasts and cleanses promoted by celebrities. Hunnes is senior dietitian at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and adjunct assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

Tips for doctors presenting at a major meeting Medscape profiled Dr. Sheila Sahni in a story that offered tips for doctors who are preparing for their first big presentation at a medical conference. Sahni, who recently completed an interventional cardiology fellowship, also serves as director of social engagement and media for the UCLA-Barbra Streisand Women’s Heart Health Program.

Media interest in IMG program continues WFMZ-TV, Philadelphia, and Vision Hispana USA reported 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. Dr. Michelle Bholat, executive director of the program and executive vice chair of family medicine at UCLA, commented.

UCLA Health and AccentCare create joint venture for post-acute care services Becker’s Hospital Review reported on a joint venture between UCLA Health and AccentCare aimed at providing a comprehensive continuum of care after patients have been discharged from the hospital.

Some skin cancer symptoms are not so visible Women’s Health Australia featured Dr. Jeremy Davis, clinical instructor of dermatology, in a story on rare skin cancer symptoms that do not appear on the skin. The story originally appeared in Prevention.

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

- On stem cell therapies for worn-out knees, featured in The Cumberland Times-News
- On yoga for lower back pain, featured in Elko Daily Free Press
- On the rarity of a brain-eating amoeba, featured in The Rocky Mount Telegram
- On fries and health, featured in The Times-Tribune
- On myasthenia gravis, featured in UExpress
- On getting through to a busy physician, featured in The Spokesman-Review.
“It can be helpful in the short run, but recurrent dependence on naps becomes a potential mechanism of depression maintenance.”

- Emanuel Maidenberg, clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, on Today.com.

Dr. Benjamin Bengs, associate professor and orthopaedic surgeon at UCLA Orthopaedic Center in Santa Monica, commented in an Oprah magazine article exploring reasons for the increase of hip and knee replacements.

Dr. Benjamin Bert, an ophthalmologist at the Doheny Eye Center UCLA—Orange County, was quoted in a SELF article about how the shingles virus can attack the eyes, causing extreme light sensitivity.

Dr. James Cherry, distinguished research professor of pediatrics in the division of infectious diseases at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital and David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented in a Los Angeles Times story about schools across California that have so many children lacking full immunization that they pose an increased risk of disease outbreaks. The story was syndicated by 24 other outlets, including the Sacramento Bee, Miami Herald and Charlotte Observer.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center and co-chief of cardiology, was quoted in a TCTMD article on a study that looked at the timing of when a patient is designated as “Do Not Resuscitate” following an in-hospital cardiac arrest.

Dr. Christine Hong, assistant professor of orthodontics at the UCLA School of Dentistry, was quoted in a Refinery29 story about mail-in braces programs and shifting teeth. The story was picked up on MSN.

Dr. Thomas Jacob, assistant professor of pediatrics at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital, was quoted in a HealthDay story about a study showing a rise in emergency room admissions for toddlers accidentally intoxicated by marijuana. The HealthDay article was syndicated by 12 outlets including U.S. News and World Report, Philly.com, WebMD and Health.com.

Emanuel Maidenberg, clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, was quoted in a Today.com story about depression naps.

Janet Mentes, professor at the UCLA School of Nursing, commented in the Atlanta Journal Constitution and the Washington Post about sources of hydration, besides water, that will keep you hydrated during the warm summer months. The Washington Post article originally appeared in Consumer Reports.
Wenyuan Shi, professor of oral biology in medicine at the UCLA School of Dentistry, was quoted in a Yahoo! News story on green tea’s potential benefits for sensitive teeth and the prevention of cavities.

Dr. Karol Watson, professor of medicine and cardiology, co-director of the UCLA Program in Preventive Cardiology and director of the UCLA Barbra Streisand Women’s Heart Health Program, commented in a U.S. News and World Report article on the higher risk of cardiovascular disease for those with diabetes.

---

**BRIEFS**

A Daily Breeze story about the launch of a SpaceX rocket that will carry research projects to the International Space Station referenced a UCLA study of an experimental drug that could help battle bone loss. The story ran across all publications of the Southern California News Group, including Los Angeles Daily News and the San Gabriel Valley Tribune.

A Popular Science story on genetic testing cited UCLA research on methylation – how small chemical clusters attach to your DNA change as you age – and its predictive link to longevity. The story was syndicated by MSN Singapore.

The Los Angeles Business Journal named UCLA Health and David Geffen School of Medicine personnel among the 500 most influential people in Los Angeles. They include:

- Dr. John Mazziotta, vice chancellor of UCLA Health Sciences and CEO of UCLA Health
- Dr. Arie Belldegrun, professor of urology and director of the UCLA Institute of Urologic Oncology
- Roy Doumani, professor of molecular and medial pharmacology and executive director of the UCLA Business of Science Center.

McKnight’s Long-Term Care News reported that UCLA Health recognized four Los Angeles skilled nursing facilities with quality improvement grants. UCLA Health Chief Nursing Executive Karen Grimley was referenced.

Gizmodo referenced a UCLA study about childbirth and the lunar cycle in a story about the upcoming solar eclipse.
This report features media placements from 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 from 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.

UCLA’s Health Sciences Media Relations office e-publishes this report weekly. For more information, please contact Tami Dennis, executive director of media relations, or call the Media Relations office at (310) 267-7022. Media Relations also offers publicity for new research, medical breakthroughs, inspirational patient stories and more. To identify the appropriate public information officer for your department, visit https://www.uclahealth.org/Newsroom/Pages/Media-Relations-Directory.aspx.