



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT**  
**For the week of Aug. 19-25, 2016**

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**Why Latinos age more slowly, live longer**

A UCLA study showing that Latinos age more slowly on a molecular level – enabling them to live longer despite facing greater health challenges – was covered by more than 200 news outlets and shared nearly 7,000 times on social media, not including 10,400 shares from the [UCLA Newsroom](#) story. Coverage

included stories Aug. 24 by [CBS News](#) and [Genetic Engineering News](#); Aug. 23 by [Fox Latino News](#); Aug. 22 by KPCC-FM's "Take Two" show, the ABC TV news affiliates in [Los Angeles](#) and [San Francisco](#), [Univision News](#), [KCBS-TV](#), [E! Online Español](#) and [Science Alert](#); Aug. 20 by [KCBS-AM/FM](#), San Francisco; Aug. 19 by [HealthDay News](#); Aug. 18 by [Telemundo](#), [LifeZette](#) and Fox News affiliates in four markets, including [Los Angeles](#); and Aug. 17 by [MSN](#) and [Capital Radio](#). The [Washington Post](#), [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) and [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) syndicated an earlier digital Los Angeles Times story, which appeared in print on Aug. 22. [U.S. News & World Report](#), [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#) and [EveryDay Health](#) syndicated the HealthDay story. Lead author Steve Horvath, a professor of human genetics and biostatistics at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted.

### **Autism-linked genes often differ among siblings**

[HealthDay](#) reported Aug. 25 on research showing that, in families that have more than one child with autism, the gene variations underlying each child's disorder often differ. The article was also featured by [U.S. News & World Report](#), [United Press International](#), [Philly.com](#), [Drugs.com](#), [Doctors Lounge](#) and [HealthCast](#). Lead author Dr. Dan Geschwind, the Gordon and Virginia MacDonald Distinguished Chair in Human Genetics and professor of neurology and psychiatry, was quoted.

### **Jump-starting the comatose brain back to life**

UCLA scientists' use of an ultrasound device to jump-start the brain of a man recovering from a coma was reported Aug. 25 by [BBC News](#), [New Scientist](#), [Wired](#), [Huffington Post](#) and [United Press International](#); and Aug. 24 by [STAT News](#), [CTV News](#), [Yahoo! News](#), the U.K.'s [Daily Mail](#) and many other outlets. Lead author Martin Monti, an associate professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted, as was Dr. Alexander Bystritsky, a professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, and the technique's pioneer.

### **Doctors say they can diagnose 'Football Dementia Disease' in living patients**

A UCLA case study stating researchers detected CTE in the brain of a living 51-year-old man was covered Aug. 23 by [Healthline](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [HealthCanal](#), [Medical Daily](#), [ScienceCodex](#) and [Check Orphan](#). Co-authors Dr. David Merrill, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute, and Dr. Cyrus A. Raji, a senior resident in radiology at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, were quoted.

### **ADHD more often missed in minority kids**

[Reuters](#) reported Aug. 24 and [HealthDay News](#) reported Aug. 23 on a new study published in the journal *Pediatrics* which found that African-American and Latino children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder may be much less likely to receive a diagnosis or treatment than their white peers. The study's lead author, Dr. Tumaini Coker, an assistant professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted. The stories were syndicated by a dozen media outlets including [Univision.com](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#) and [WebMD](#).

### **Sac Bee examines why menopause accelerates aging**

Research by Steve Horvath finding that women's epigenetic clocks tick faster following menopause was reported Aug. 22 by the [Sacramento Bee](#). Horvath is a professor of human genetics and biostatistics at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Fielding School of Public Health.

### **Opinion: Cholera in Haiti**

Ralph R. Frerichs, professor emeritus of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, wrote an opinion piece published Aug. 22 by the [Boston Globe](#) about the United Nations and the current cholera epidemic in Haiti. Frerichs also commented on the subject Aug. 18 in the U.K.'s [The Guardian](#).

### **KPCC explores gene linked to brain disorders after concussion**

Dr. Meeryo Choe, associate director of the UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program and an assistant professor of pediatrics at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Mattel Children's Hospital, was interviewed Aug. 17 on KPCC-FM's "Take Two" about whether athletes should be tested for a gene linked to post-concussion neurological disorders later in life.

### **Opinion: Hospitals catering to wealthy patients create health disparities**

Nadereh Pourat, adjunct professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and research director at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, authored an Aug. 22 [New York Times](#) op-ed column about hospitals creating greater disparities in health care access by providing a luxury experience to wealthy patients while skimping on services to the poor.

### **Opinion: Mass panic, social contagion, and our reaction to uncommon events**

[STAT News](#) published Aug. 23 an article by Dr. Gary Small, director of geriatric psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, exploring social contagion and situations of mass hysteria. Small discussed our reaction to events that are out of the ordinary as well as more effective ways to address such events.

### **Opinion: Prop. 60 will protect adult film performers**

[The Mercury News](#) (San Jose) published Aug. 24 an editorial by Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases and public health at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Fielding School of Public Health, arguing that Proposition 60 will protect the health of adult film performers by making it easier to charge producers and talent agents who violate the state's condom law. His op-ed was in reaction to a previous editorial published in the paper that opposed the proposition, which will be on the state ballot in November.

### **Easy ways to build activity into your workday**

[HealthDay News](#) featured on Aug. 18 simple tips to help incorporate 30 minutes of physical activity into the workday, which can help lower the health risks associated with sitting too much. Dr. Daniel Vigil, health sciences associate clinical professor of family medicine, was featured. The story was syndicated by dozens of news outlets including [U.S. News & World Report](#), [Philly.com](#), and [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#).

### **Fox TV explores EpiPen alternatives**

Dr. Maria Garcia-Lloret, a professor of pediatrics in the division of allergy, immunology and rheumatology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was interviewed live Aug. 23 on KTTV-TV's "[Good Day LA](#)" about alternatives to the EpiPen, whose price has been hiked up to \$600 per dose by its manufacturer. Children and adults depend on the medicine to combat life-threatening allergies.

### **Public health professor discusses Italian lawmakers' views on veganism**

William James McCarthy, adjunct professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Aug. 24 in a report on [KPCC-FM](#) about the health implications of raising children with a vegan diet.

### **Diet, exercise potential to cut Alzheimer's risk continues to receive coverage**

A study by Dr. David Merrill, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry, finding that diet and exercise reduces the buildup of proteins linked to the onset of Alzheimer's was covered Aug. 19 by [Healthsite](#) and [World Report Now](#), Aug. 18 by [News18](#), Aug. 17 by [eMaxHealth](#), [PsychCentral](#) and [Medical News Today](#), Aug 16 by the U.K.'s [The Telegraph](#) and others.

### **Bisphenol B in plastics may harm women's eggs**

[Engineering 360](#) reported Aug. 24 on research co-authored by Patrick Allard suggesting that bisphenol B, or BPS, a chemical used to manufacture plastic bottles and other consumer products, can damage a woman's eggs – and at lower doses than BPA, a chemical that it replaced. Allard is an assistant professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and the study's senior author.

### **Physician's tips to prevent school-sports injuries garners additional coverage**

The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) published Aug. 19 a story with quotes and tips from Dr. Jennifer Beck, pediatric orthopaedic surgeon and sports medicine specialist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, on how to prevent school sports injuries. The August 24 Santa Monica Daily Press printed a brief article about a

community talk by Beck on the topic. Previously, an article appeared Aug. 17 on [HealthDay News](#) and was syndicated by the Philadelphia Inquirer.

### **Designing healthy environments**

Dr. Richard J. Jackson, professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Aug. 18 on [KRWG-FM](#), Las Cruces, New Mexico, in a report on designing healthy communities. Public presentations on the subject featuring Jackson were mentioned Aug. 20 in the [Las Cruces Sun-News](#) and Aug. 21 on the [KRWG](#) website.

### **Expert explains how to avoid eye infections**

Dr. John Bartlett, professor of ophthalmology at the Stein Eye Institute and David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was interviewed Aug. 18 by [Healthline](#) about serious eye problems caused by misuse and poor hygiene with contact lenses.

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## **NOTABLE BRIEFS**

A 2015 study examining the association of media violence exposure and physical aggression in children that was led by Dr. Tumaini Coker, an assistant professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was cited Aug. 23 in a [CNN.com](#) story about the accuracy of the TV rating system in the United States. The story was also published by the websites of CNN affiliates [WGAL-TV](#) (Lancaster, Pennsylvania), [KSL-TV](#) (Salt Lake City, Utah) and [WPTZ-TV](#) (Burlington, Vermont).

The UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center was mentioned Aug. 11 in a [Fortune](#) magazine article about Apple rehiring an Apple Engineer to improve its healthcare apps for the iPhone and Apple Watch. Apple previously worked with Dr. Patricia Ganz, director of the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center's Cancer Prevention and Control Research program and a distinguished professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, to launch Researchkit, an app that allows cancer survivors to track their health on a daily basis.

UCLA was mentioned Aug. 23 on the website of [WNDU-TV](#), South Bend, Indiana, about the development of a treatment for people with recurrent brain cancers including glioblastoma, the most common and aggressive form of the disease. Researchers at UCLA, Cleveland Clinic and UCSD successfully demonstrated that a modified virus combined with an antifungal medication can extend the lives of patients with this deadly disease.

Diabetes research from the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding of Public Health was cited Aug. 23 in a [California Health Care Foundation](#) article about the disease's rising rate in California over the past 30 years.

The California Health Interview Survey, conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited Aug. 22 in [Water Deeply](#) in an article about California's first statewide study of the effects of drought on human health. The article also ran in [KQED Science](#).

A study conducted by the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and the Inter-American Development Bank about health care systems in Latin American and Caribbean countries was cited Aug. 19 by [The Voice](#) in an article about a child from St Vincent and the Grenadines seeking funds for medical treatment.

Research compiled by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, the UC Berkeley Labor Center and the Insight Center for Community Economic Development, was cited Aug. 19 by [National Daily Press](#) and Aug. 18 by [Capital Public Radio](#) in articles projecting that the number of uninsured California residents will reach more than 3 million by 2017.

Data from "The Elder Index," developed by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited Aug. 18 in a [NextCity](#) article about the aging population of Los Angeles' Skid Row.

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## NOTABLE QUOTABLES

Dana Hunnes, senior dietitian at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and adjunct assistant professor of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Aug. 24 in a [Men's Journal](#) story about the vegan diet.

Nancee Jaffe, registered dietitian at the Digestive Health and Nutrition Clinic, was quoted Aug. 23 in a [Women's Health](#) story about the low FODMAP diet and its use-cases.

Dr. Larissa Mooney, an associate clinical professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Addiction Medicine Clinic, commented Aug. 17 in a [KPCC](#) article about the risks of under-medication amid an epidemic of opioid addiction.

Dr. Denise Sur, professor and vice chair of the UCLA Department of Family Medicine, commented Aug. 25 in a [CBS News.com](#) story on health issues physicians discuss with their children before they leave for college.

Dr. Christopher Tymchuk, assistant clinical professor of medicine, hospitalist/infectious disease specialist, and director of Global Health Pathway, commented Aug. 22 in a [Hollywood Reporter](#) article about mosquito-repellent clothes.

Dr. Daniel Vigil, health sciences associate clinical professor of family medicine, commented for piece in the September issue of Women's Health magazine on using heart-rate monitors when you're inactive to gauge how effectively you're training.

Dr. Eric Vilain, a professor of human genetics, urology and pediatrics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Aug. 19 in a [New York Times](#) article about gender issues and competition at the Olympics.

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