



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Aug. 21-27, 2015

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Los Angeles Times Reports on Community Paramedicine Program

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Cancer Researcher Explains President Carter's Immunotherapy Drug

Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor of medicine in the division of hematology/oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and the director of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Tumor Immunology Program, was quoted Aug. 20 in the [Los Angeles Times](#), [The Washington Post](#), [Bloomberg News](#) and [Houston Chronicle](#) (subscription required), and Aug. 20 in [Live Science](#) and [Sci-Tech Today](#) on the FDA approved immunotherapy drug pembrolizumab, also known as Keytruda, in stories about former President Jimmy Carter, who has cancer and was prescribed the drug to treat advanced melanoma.

Los Angeles Times Reports on Community Paramedicine Program

The [Los Angeles Times](#) reported Aug. 25 on two pilot programs being run by UCLA that seek to use community paramedics to decrease emergency room overcrowding and costly hospital readmissions. Dr. Steven Rottman, an adjunct professor of emergency medicine and principal investigator for the pilot programs, was quoted.

Ongoing Coverage of New Data Release from Fielding School Survey

The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health released new data from the 2014 California Health Interview, which revealed an increase in the number of California adults who have health insurance, compared to the uninsured rate from the survey's 2013 findings. This and other survey data were featured by the following news outlets:

- [California HealthCare Foundation](#) on Aug. 25 about the new data's inclusion in ACA 411, an interactive web tool that tracks the impact of health care reform on California health care
- [Univision Television Network](#) on Aug 24 about the number of Hispanic California residents who have health insurance
- [Physicians News Network](#) on Aug. 24 about the Affordable Care Act's impact on Medi-Cal enrollment; it also quoted Dr. Shana Alex Charles, research scientist at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

Debbie Reynolds Honored for Work with Operation Mend

[CBS News online](#), [USA Today](#), [Yahoo! News](#) and others reported Aug. 27 that the Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences voted to present the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award to actress Debbie Reynolds for her work as a founding member of the Thaliens, a charitable organization to promote awareness and treatment of mental health issues. Her efforts have enabled the Thaliens to contribute significant funding to support UCLA's Operation Mend program, which helps military veterans recover from the physical and psychological wounds of war. The Award is given to an individual in the motion picture arts and sciences whose humanitarian efforts have brought credit to the industry.

Local TV Station Reports on Cancer Patient's Wish to Meet President

[KTLA-Channel 5](#) aired Aug. 26 a segment on a young cancer patient at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica who launched a social-media campaign to fulfill his wish of meeting President Obama. Dr. Noah Federman, director, UCLA Pediatric Sarcoma Program, the 12-year-old boy and his mother were interviewed for the story.

Study on Rehabilitating the Heart Receives Further Coverage

A study by Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, showing that only one-in-10 heart failure patients are referred to a cardiac rehabilitation program after being hospitalized, continues to be reported by the media. The study noted there is strong evidence that such exercise programs improve quality of life and reduce the likelihood of future hospitalizations. Additional coverage included [Healio.com](#) on Aug. 21, and [Dotmed.com](#) on Aug. 24.

A User's Manual to Your Memory

Research on brain boosting and aging by 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 featured in the September print edition of Health magazine.

Health Policy Experts Discuss Health Insurance and Employers

Dr. Shana Alex Charles, research scientist at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and Dr. Dylan Roby, faculty associate at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and adjunct associate professor of health policy and management at the Fielding School, were featured Aug. 26 in an [Orange County Register](#) story about the relationship between employers and health insurance companies.

Unraveling a Mystery Bug

The August edition of [CAP Today](#), a monthly magazine published by the College of American Pathologists, described the detective work of Dr. Romney Humphries, chief of clinical microbiology in the pathology department at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, with microbiology fellows Dr. Shaun Yang and Dr. Peera Hemarajata to trace the origin of a superbug infection at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center.

HIV Testing Among Older Adults

[Medical News Today](#) highlighted Aug. 27 research led by Dr. Chandra Ford, associate professor, department of community health services, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, finding that HIV testing gains among older adults have not been sustained over time despite a 2006 recommendation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that most doctors should automatically screen all their patients, including older adults, for HIV even if they don't exhibit any symptoms.

I Look Like a Surgeon

[Board Vitals](#) featured Aug. 26 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, who participated in a new social media campaign called "I Look Like a Surgeon" that promotes women in the surgery profession.

Stroke Study Featured by Medscape

[Medscape](#) (subscription required) reported Aug. 26 on a study that found speedy treatment with a new-generation stent clot retrieval device results in greatly improved outcomes, and that even a five-minute delay negatively affects patients. Dr. Sunil Sheth, a fellow in radiological sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

How Google Is Changing the Way We Think

Research on memory and attention by 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 featured Aug. 25 in a [Huffington Post](#) article about the effect internet use has on brain circuitry.

Santa Monica Paper Covers Legal Action Taken Against Encroaching Hardware Store

The [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) reported Aug. 21 on legal action taken by the University of California on behalf of UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica to force a neighboring store to address an encroachment on hospital property.

Decades-old Fielding School Research Applies Today

[The Gettysburg Times](#) highlighted Aug. 26 findings from 1970s-era research from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, formerly known as the UCLA School of Public Health, about the significance of silica for bone development.

BRIEFS

Research published by PLOS ONE suggesting that HIV accelerates age-related epigenetic changes—that is, changes to the DNA that in turn lead to changes in expression of gene levels without altering the inherited genetic code, affecting biological processes--by about 14 years was cited Aug. 19 in a [Vancouver Courier](#) story.

[Los Angeles Magazine](#) published Aug. 17 an item about a fundraising event to benefit the UCLA Breast Center in Santa Monica. The event was organized by the husband of a breast cancer patient who passed last year.

[Westside Today](#) reported Aug. 27 that Dr. Kelsey Martin, a professor of biological chemistry and of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, has been named as interim dean of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

A research tool to evaluate household income from the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited Aug. 24 in an [AllGov.com](#) article about the struggle to meet basic needs in California households.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Susan Babey, senior research scientist at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Aug. 24 in [The Sacramento Bee](#) about how teens who engage in extracurricular activities are less likely to be overweight.

Dr. Mark DeAntonio, a professor of clinical psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of Inpatient Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Service at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented Aug. 23 in a [Radio Lab](#) report on the role of lithium in stabilizing the condition of a grateful, former patient with a bipolar disorder.

Dr. Eric Esrailian, section head in general gastroenterology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Aug. 20 in a [Bustle.com](#) article about the importance of healthy bowel movements.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented in Aug. 24 in a [Newsmax.com](#) article regarding a study suggesting that exercise may help control an irregular heartbeat known as atrial fibrillation in obese people.

Dr. Patricia Ganz, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of the Center for Cancer Prevention and Control Research at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer, commented Aug. 26 in [iHealthBeat](#) about the importance of integrating the technology of mobile healthcare apps with non-digital health care systems.

Dr. Gary Gitnick, professor and co-chief of the UCLA Division of Digestive Diseases, and the Fran and Ray Stark Foundation Chair at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented in Aug. 20 in a [Hollywood Reporter](#) article about the success of the Fulfillment Fund, a nonprofit devoted to improving childhood education, that Gitnick founded in 1977.

Dr. Neal Halfon, professor of health policy management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Aug. 24 in [Yahoo! Parenting](#) about the effectiveness of parents who intend for their children to go to college.

Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and of public health at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Aug. 21 in an article in [The Desert Sun](#) about the high syphilis infection rate in Palm Springs.

Dr. Larissa Mooney, an associate clinical professor of psychiatry in the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Addiction Medicine Clinic, was quoted in Aug. 23 in a [Tampa Tribune](#) article about concerns around the FDA's recent approval of OxyContin for use in children as young as 11.

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