



Health

UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT For the week of Aug. 25 - 31, 2017

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[ABC News: "20/20" spotlights hand transplant patient](#)

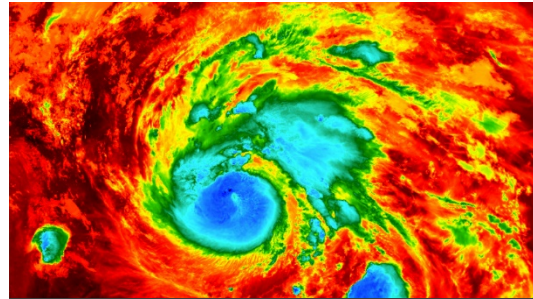
(Photo: Reed Hutchinson/UCLA)





KPCC: Extreme heat's effect on the body

(Photo: iStock)



Huffington Post: Hurricane creates public health threats

(Photo: European Space Agency/Flickr; edited)



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ABC's "20/20" spotlights hand transplant patient

ABC's "20/20" featured a one-hour show on Jonathan Koch, a Hollywood executive who underwent a successful hand transplant surgery at UCLA in October 2016. Dr. Kodi Azari, surgical director of the UCLA hand transplant program, was interviewed and described the unique approach that he took before and after surgery. The show can be viewed [in full with subscription](#) or via the links below in six parts:

Part 1: <http://bit.ly/2wjlsWv>

Part 2: <http://bit.ly/2vy0n9O>

Part 3: <http://bit.ly/2wX6Y0U>

Part 4: <http://bit.ly/2wNgiVY>

Part 5: <http://bit.ly/2vxXS7k>

Part 6: <http://bit.ly/2gjTbLo>

Extreme heat's effect on the body

KPCC-FM featured a Q&A with Dr. David Eisenman, who explained how extreme heat can affect the human body. He also commented in an [Arizona Republic](#) story on heat-related deaths in Maricopa County. Eisenman is professor-in-residence of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of the UCLA Center for Public Health and Disasters.

Hurricane creates public health threats

The [Huffington Post](#) featured Dr. Richard Jackson, professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, in a report about the broader public health threats posed by the Houston hurricane. Yahoo! News and MSN carried the story.

Growing media interest on research that stem cells could fight baldness

[STAT News](#), [Kaiser Health News](#), [ThirdAge.com](#) and [Daily Star](#) reported on UCLA research that identified a new way to activate hair follicle stem cells to make hair grow. 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.

Gene therapy using “junk DNA” could lower heart disease risk

[ScienMag](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Drug Target Review](#), [Science Daily](#), [Medical Research.com](#), [News Medical.net](#) and [My Science.org](#) reported on a new study in which researchers successfully used a gene that suppresses cholesterol levels in mice with a disorder called familial hypercholesterolemia. The gene, LeXis, belongs to a unique group of genes that until recently were considered “junk DNA.” Dr. Tamer Sallam, assistant professor of medicine, led the study.

Music therapy helps young patients in the hospital -- and parents at home

[LA Parent Magazine](#) published a story on the many lessons from music therapy that can be used by parents at home, featuring Jenna Bollard, a music therapist at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital. The story can be found on pages 26-29 in the magazine and features a hospital patient.

Keeping track of mosquitoes

KPCC-FM featured Dr. Claire Panosian Dunavan, professor of medicine emeritus/recalled in the division of infectious diseases, who discussed the effectiveness of mosquito surveillance in Southern California and the harmful viruses that local insects can potentially carry.

How leprosy hijacks the immune system

[Medical Xpress](#) and [Technology Networks](#) published articles on UCLA research finding that leprosy turns the immune system against itself like other autoimmune diseases. Researchers Cressida Madigan, postdoctoral research fellow and first author; Dr. Robert Modlin, chief of dermatology and professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics; and Alvaro Sagasti, associate professor of molecular, cell and developmental biology, were referenced.

Choosing an eco-friendly death

A story by Sacramento's [KQED-FM](#) on Assembly Bill 967, which would legalize public access to alkaline hydrolysis, a more environmentally friendly way to dispose of human remains after death, was syndicated by 60 National Public Radio affiliates, including Capital Public Radio, Hawaii Public Radio and Milwaukee Public Radio. Dean Fisher, director of the UCLA Donated Body Program, explained how UCLA uses the technology to dispose of cadavers after their use in research and medical education.

What you should know about the health effects of alcohol

An [ABCNews.com](#) video and article on the effects of alcohol featured Dr. Ravi Dave, clinical professor of medicine and director of interventional cardiology at UCLA Health. The video and article also appeared on [ABCRadioonline.com](#), [Yahoo! News.com](#) and more than a dozen local ABC radio station websites nationwide.

Recommended genetic tests for breast and ovarian cancers are underused

[Ovarian Cancer News Today](#) reported on research led by Dr. Christopher Childers finding that more than 80 percent of women at high risk for developing breast or ovarian cancer don't take a recommended genetic test that could detect it. Childers, a resident physician in the UCLA Department of Surgery, and senior author James Macinko, professor of health policy and management and of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of

Public Health, were quoted.

People with diabetes need to lower risk factors for cardiovascular disease

[MD Mag](#) featured a video and comments from Dr. Karol Watson, professor of medicine in the division of cardiology, co-director of the UCLA Program in Preventive Cardiology, and director of the UCLA Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Health Program, about the need to address preventive risk factors for heart disease in patients with diabetes.

VC Star spotlights living kidney donor-recipient pair

The [Ventura County Star](#) featured UCLA patients Ted and Denice Lombard, who in 1967 became one of the first father-daughter duos to undergo successful kidney transplant surgery in the United States. Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, medical director of the kidney and pancreas transplant program, commented.

The growth of the Chinese senior population in the U.S.

A [New America Media](#) story highlighted research from the Center for Health Policy Research in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health finding that the percentage of Asians age 65 and older in the U.S. will increase five-fold by 2050. Stephen P. Wallace, chair of the department of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and the center's associate chair, was quoted.

Study finds no benefit in biomarker-guided drug management

[Medscape](#) reported on a large, randomized multi-center study finding that drug management guided by biomarkers did not improve the risk of heart failure hospitalization or death when compared with guideline-based "usual care." Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center and co-chief of cardiology, who wrote an accompanying editorial to the study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, was quoted.

Cancer can affect a patient's sense of taste, smell

[News-Medical.net](#) published an article featuring Catherine Carpenter, professor of clinical nutrition, about how cancer patients may experience changes in taste.

Why one teenager may need more - or less - sleep than another

[Medical Xpress](#), [MyScience.org](#) and [Crosswalk.com](#) featured research by Andrew Fuligni, a professor in residence at UCLA's Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, about optimal sleep for daily mood in teens.

In the aftermath of chemotherapy for breast cancer

[Science Daily](#) featured research by Dr. Patricia Ganz, distinguished professor of hematology and oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, on peripheral neuropathy after chemotherapy in early-stage breast cancer patients and the effectiveness of all chemotherapies in early-stage breast cancer patients. Ganz, who is also director of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Patients and Survivors Program, was quoted.

Media interest in TMS therapy continues

[U.S. News & World Report](#) covered the UCLA transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) therapy, a treatment that beams magnetic pulses into the brain to combat depression. Dr. Andrew Leuchter, senior research scientist at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior and director of the neuromodulation division, commented.

Pediatrician gives advice on preparing for doctor visits

Dr. Jayme Heath, assistant clinical professor and pediatrician at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was featured in an [L.A. Parent](#) “Doc Talk” column in which she gave advice on how to prepare for a child’s annual check-up.

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 the health impacts of football, featured in [The Times-Tribune](#)
- On meditation and alleviating back pain, featured in [Indiana Gazette](#)
- On the dangers of lead in water for homeowners, featured in [Brattleboro Reformer](#)
- On taking medication with food, featured in [The Californian](#)
- On sudden muscle cramps, featured in [Hanford Sentinel](#)
- On dairy products impacting kids' size differences, featured in [Tulsa World](#).

QUOTED

"It really is the wave of the future, and we've got to get the health departments on board."

-Dr. Jeffrey Klausner in an [MD Magazine](#) article about HIV home-test kits

Dr. Jeff Bronstein, commented in a CBS story about Music Mends Minds, a Los Angeles organization that brings together former musicians who suffer from neurological disorders like Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s. The piece aired on 10 CBS affiliates including KMVT-TV, Twin Falls, ID.

Dr. Sherin Devaskar, executive endowed chair of pediatrics at UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital and executive director of the UCLA Children’s Discovery and Innovation Institute, commented in a [Las Vegas Business Press](#) story about Nevada’s shortage of pediatricians.

Dr. Bruce Dobkin, the director of the UCLA Neurological Rehabilitation and Research Program, commented in [Scientific American](#) about robotic exoskeletons for children with cerebral palsy. The story also appeared in [KQED.org](#) and [The Scientist](#).

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 [HealthDay](#) article on a British study finding that married patients who had a heart attack were more likely to survive than singles. The HealthDay story was syndicated in 43 outlets including [U.S. News and World Report](#), [Health.com](#), and [Philly.com](#)

Dr. Jerome Hershman, professor-in-residence of medicine (emeritus) in the division of endocrinology, diabetes, & metabolism, was quoted in a [LiveScience](#) article on symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of thyroid cancer.

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 in an [MD Magazine](#) article on a study finding HIV home-test kits show promise for boosting testing numbers.

Dr. Zhaoping Li, director at UCLA's Center for Human Nutrition, was quoted in stories on [CNN.com](#) and [Today.com](#) about a new study finding that consistent techniques prove most effective for weight loss. The CNN.com story was syndicated in 117 other online outlets.

Emanuel Maidenberg, professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented in:

- An [NPR](#) story about how money can buy happiness – when used to buy yourself free time. The segment aired on 112 stations nationwide.
- A story about managing stress that appeared in [Entrepreneur](#), the [San Antonio Express-News](#), the [Connecticut Post](#) and eight other outlets nationwide.

Dr. Christopher Saigal, vice chair of urology, was quoted in a [Men's Health](#) story on tips to reduce the risk of cancer. Saigal is a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Dr. Gail Wyatt, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at UCLA, commented in an article in the [Weekly Challenger](#) about boxer Floyd Mayweather's record of domestic abuse.

BRIEFS

A [Gizmodo](#) article about scientists pushing back against genetic pseudoscience referenced Leonid Kruglyak, chair of human genetics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

A [Fortune](#) article about the writer's mission to prioritize immunotherapy for cancer treatment referenced Dr. Linda Liau, interim chair of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and her brain cancer research.

[Hospitals & Health Networks](#) cited UCLA Health in a story about Martin Luther King Jr. Community Hospital and its focus on implementing the latest technology.

A [LatinoLA](#) article mentioned David Hayes-Bautista, director of the Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, and his finding, based on U.S. Census data, that Latino children will eventually become the majority in some schools.

An [East Bay Times](#) op-ed on California's proposed single-payer health care legislation

cited data from the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research about delays in filling prescriptions or getting medical services in 2014.

A [Los Angeles Sentinel](#) article on creating smoke-free environments in Los Angeles cited research from the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research finding that more than one in three nonsmokers who live in rental housing are exposed to secondhand smoke.

A [San Diego Uptown News](#) editorial on the critical need for housing help for San Diego seniors cited the Elder Index, developed by the Insight Center for Economic Development and the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.

ESPN Radio Los Angeles referred to the UCLA Health Training Center in a segment about the South Bay Lakers.

ESPN Radio Los Angeles: <http://bit.ly/2uDFGvC>

The [Davis Vanguard](#) in Davis, California, referenced a diabetes study conducted by the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.

A [San Fernando Business Journal](#) article cited UCLA as one of two study sites for a newly FDA-approved clinical trial to test a surgically implanted visual prosthesis.

[Inside Philanthropy](#) profiled UCLA's Marilyn Hilton MS Achievement Center in an article about how the Conrad Hilton Foundation developed its interest in supporting multiple sclerosis research.



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.

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