



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Sept. 9-15, 2016

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STAT editorial lauds kidney voucher program

Emergency doctor explains pneumonia

PrEP and higher rates of sexually transmitted infections

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Easy ways to get moving

Magazine examines parents' use of marijuana in treating autistic children

Santa Monica pediatric nurse lauded for 40 years of caring

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Immunotherapy in liver cancer

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The Scientist, Gizmodo explore how we learn by watching others

A Nature Communications study that pinpointed the region of the brain responsible for learning by watching others was covered Sept. 6 by [The Scientist](#), Brazil's [EFE](#) (and syndicated by [Fox News Latino](#) and [W Radio](#)); Sept. 7 by Italy's [Le Scienze](#) and Spain's [El Mundo](#), Sept. 8 by [MedicalXpress](#); Sept. 9 by [Gizmodo](#), [Diario Medico](#), [BioTech In Asia](#), [Science Codex](#), [News-Medical.net](#) and [Laboratory Equipment](#); Sept. 10 by [PsyPost](#); and Sept. 12 by [Gizmodo Australia](#) and [Science Daily](#). Senior author Dr. Itzhak Fried, a professor of neurosurgery and psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Semel Institute, was quoted.

Superhero window washers cheer sick kids

A visit to Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA by window washers dressed as Marvel Superheroes to bring cheer to young patients was covered Sept. 14 by KCBS-TV, KNBC-TV, KCAL-TV, KTTV-TV, Telemundo, Reuters Photo and City News Service; and Sept. 15 by Univision. The annual event is organized by the hospital's Chase Child Life Program, and Sunland Window Cleaning provides the costumes and staff who volunteer their time.

KCBS-TV: <http://bit.ly/2chXOBo>

KNBC-TV: <http://bit.ly/2cS7Uae>

KCAL-TV: <http://bit.ly/2cMOgkh>

Telemundo: <http://bit.ly/2czxfq7>

Univision: <http://bit.ly/2d3VMGK>

Discover spotlights epigenetic clock that predicts aging

Steve Horvath and his development of a biological clock able to measure the aging rate of different parts of the body was featured in the October issue of [Discover](#) magazine in a cover story about how to live to 100. His findings may one day lead to the ability to extend human lifespan. Horvath, a professor of human genetics and biostatistics at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted.

OB/GYN discusses Zika

Dr. Neil Silverman a clinical professor in the UCLA Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and a member of the American Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology's Zika Expert Work Group, continues to provide expert insight on issues related to Zika:

- Sept. 14 in [NPR's "Goats and Soda"](#) about what experts can learn from a Brazilian study of 48 babies whose mothers were believed to have been infected with the Zika virus. Forty-two of the babies were diagnosed with microcephaly. Silverman noted that the study adds to the cumulative information on the impact of Zika on developing fetuses.
- In the 2017 U.S. News & World Report's Best Hospitals edition (p. 132) on steps women can take to avoid contracting the Zika virus to help ensure a safe pregnancy.
- Sept. 8 in a [Refinery29](#) article on what one needs to know about getting tested for the virus.

Yahoo! News profiles pioneer in genetics of gender identity

A profile of Dr. Eric Vilain, a professor of human genetics, pediatrics and urology at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Mattel Children's Hospital, was published Sept. 10 by [Yahoo! News](#). It explained that Horvath's devotion to science above all else has triggered intense reactions to his efforts to demystify the origins of gender identity.

Coping mechanisms for addiction can vary by gender

[KPCC's "Take Two"](#) on Sept. 13 featured Dr. Joy Hao, Ph.D., a clinical instructor of family medicine and an addiction specialist, discussing the differences in addictions between genders, in the wake of a book by soccer star Abby Wambach.

STAT editorial lauds kidney voucher program

[STAT](#) published Sept. 13 an opinion piece by Dr. Sally Satel, a doctor and author, praising UCLA's kidney voucher program, under which one can donate a kidney to a stranger in exchange for a voucher ensuring a future kidney for a loved one who may need a transplant. Satel, a kidney recipient herself, noted that the program could help increase the number of organ donors.

Emergency doctor discusses pneumonia

Dr. Mark Morocco, clinical professor of emergency medicine at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, was featured Sept. 12 in a [KTTV-TV](#) report about pneumonia in connection to Hillary Clinton's diagnosis.

PrEP and higher rates of sexually transmitted infections

[Rage Monthly](#) reported Sept. 12 and [POZ](#) magazine reported Sept. 2 on research co-authored by Dr. Jeffrey Klausner finding that rates of sexually transmitted infections are much higher among men who have sex with men (MSM) and who take Truvada as pre-exposure prophylaxis than among other MSM.

Klausner is a 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.

Dermatologist sheds light on the science behind paper cuts

Dr. Hayley Goldbach, UCLA resident physician in dermatology, explained Sept. 9 in a [Lifehacker](#) story the effects of paper cuts on the skin and why they cause so much pain.

Dietitian explains health risks of caffeine overdose

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, discussed Sept. 8 in a [Health.com](#) story the dangers of ingesting too much caffeine.

Easy ways to get moving

[News24.com](#) (South Africa) posted Sept. 15 tips on easy ways to incorporate activity into the work day to help reduce the effects of sitting too much. Dr. Daniel Vigil, associate clinical professor of family medicine and orthopaedic surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

Magazine examines parents' use of marijuana in treating autistic children

A Sept. 14 story in [Spectrum](#) featured interviews with Dr. Shefali Jeste and Dr. Shaun Hussain, about parents' use of marijuana to treat autism in their children. Jeste is an associate professor of neurology and psychiatry at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Semel Institute. Hussain is an assistant clinical professor of pediatric neurology at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA.

Santa Monica pediatric nurse lauded for 40 years of caring

Terri Bercier, a 40-year pediatric nurse at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was profiled in the Sept. 9 [Santa Monica Daily Press](#) for the care she has provided to children over her career and for her volunteer work with Project Helping Hands. K. David Bailey, chief nursing officer at the hospital, was also quoted in the story.

Common breast cancer test might be too expensive for patients

[DOTmed](#) reported Sept. 13 and [Health Canal](#) reported Sept. 14 on research led by Dr. Ann Raldow finding that the Oncotype DX DCIS test that is given to women with ductal carcinoma in situ, a type of breast cancer that has not spread to any other tissues, is not cost effective. Raldow is an assistant professor in residence in the UCLA Department of Radiation Oncology and member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Immunotherapy in liver cancer

Dr. Richard Finn, co-director of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Signal Transduction and Therapeutics Program, was featured Sept. 14 in a [Targeted Oncology](#) video about the role of immunotherapy to treat Liver Cancer.

NOTABLE BRIEFS

The UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center was mentioned Sept. 8 in a [Fox 11](#) report as one of the beneficiaries of the \$45 million raised over the years from the AVON 39 Walk to End Breast Cancer in Santa Barbara.

NOTABLE QUOTABLES

Dr. James Cherry, a distinguished research professor of infectious diseases at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Mattel Children's Hospital, commented Sept. 12 in the [Los Angeles Times](#) and Sept. 9 on [KPCC-FM](#) about an Orange County pediatrician being investigated by the California Medical Board for requesting a boy's vaccinations be waived for the rest of his childhood.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center and co-chief of the UCLA Division of Cardiology, was quoted Sept. 14 in a [Reuters](#) article about a study which found an association between smoking and thicker heart walls and blood pumping difficulties that may eventually lead to heart failure. Fonarow noted that the study provided evidence that smoking directly damages the heart muscle which in turn leads to heart failure, which is a common, costly, and deadly condition. The Reuters article also appeared on [Fox News.com](#) and the web site of [WHTC-AM](#) (Holland, Michigan).

Dr. Christopher Giza, director of the UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program and a professor of pediatrics and neurosurgery at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Mattel Children's Hospital, commented Sept. 12 in the [Sacramento Bee](#) about the rising rate of sports concussions in California.

Dr. Quinton Gopen, associate professor of head and neck surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Sept. 14 by [U.S. News & World Report](#) on the causes and symptoms of tinnitus, or sounds that no one else can hear.

Dr. Rex Hamilton, director of the Laser Refractive Center at the Stein Eye Institute at UCLA, commented Sept. 13 in an [NBC News](#) story about a new implant that reshapes the cornea to improve near vision for aging eyes.

Dr. Jody Heymann, dean of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Sept. 8 in a [Metro Parent](#) article about the roles of both fathers and mothers in raising children.

David Hovda, director of the UCLA Brain Injury Research Center and a professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented Sept. 9 in [The Atlantic](#) about what happens to the brain as a person dies.

Romney Humphries, chief of clinical microbiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was interviewed Sept. 2 by CBS Radio on the FDA ban against antibacterial soaps. Segments aired on the CBS affiliates in San Francisco and Washington, D.C.

Dr. Carlos Lerner, associate clinical professor of pediatrics and medical director of the Children's Health Center at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commented Sept. 12 in a [Today](#) article on parents' dosing mistakes when administering medication to children. The story was also featured on [MSN.com](#).

Dr. Mark Litwin, chair of the UCLA Department of Urology, commented Sept. 14 in a [STAT](#) article about a New England Journal of Medicine study of prostate cancer patients followed for ten years and randomly selected for treatment that included surgery and radiation or active monitoring. Researchers at Oxford determined that the incidents of death were low and there were no significant differences among treatments, only that surgery and radiation had lower rates of the disease spreading. Litwin is also a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center. [Business Insider](#) syndicated the STAT story.

Emanuel Maidenberg, clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences and director of the cognitive behavioral clinic at the Semel Institute, commented Sept. 12 in a [Fusion](#) story on social anxiety and why coping with difficult situations by retreating into our smartphones causes us to not be present.

Dr. David Reuben, chief of the UCLA Division of Geriatrics, commented Sept. 15 in a [Reuters Health](#) story about a study finding that assistance from a nurse, an occupational therapist and even a handyman makes it easier for low-income seniors to perform tasks that are essential for independent living. The article also appeared on [Yahoo! News](#) and the web site of [WHBL-AM/FM](#) (Sheboygan, Wisconsin).

Dr. Christopher Saigal, professor and vice chair of the UCLA Department of Urology, was quoted Sept. 14 in a [Los Angeles Times](#) story about a New England Journal of Medicine study of prostate cancer patients followed for ten years and randomly selected for treatment that included surgery and radiation or active

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