



**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT**  
**For the week of Sept. 16-22, 2016**

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**Researchers use stem cells to grow mini 3-D lung-in-a-dish**

The U.K.'s [Daily Mail](#) and [Science Daily](#) on Sept. 15, [HuffPost Tech U.K.](#) on Sept. 16, [Futurism](#) on Sept. 19, [Raw Story](#) on Sept. 20 and many others reported on a study showing that stem cells can be used to make 3-D models of lung tissue to study and potentially treat idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and other lung diseases. UCLA is the first to publish work using this pioneering 3-D lung tissue modeling technique. The research, published in the journal *Stem Cells Translational Medicine*, was led by senior author Dr. Brigitte Gomperts, an associate professor of pediatric hematology/oncology and a member of the UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center. The study's first author was Dan Wilkinson, a graduate student in Gomperts' lab.

**Opera produced by UCLA Center for Health Services and Society premieres**

“The Center Cannot Hold,” an opera premiering at UCLA about living with schizophrenia, was covered Sept. 16 in the [Washington Post](#). The opera was composed by Dr. Kenneth Wells, professor in the department of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Center for Health Services and Society at the Semel Institute.

### **Most parents don't know how to treat concussion**

A survey finding that most parents would follow out-of-date medical advice when caring for children with concussion continued to receive coverage by Fox-TV affiliates in Pennsylvania and North Carolina, and a CBS affiliate in Alabama. The findings were covered by more than 300 news outlets and have reached an audience of more than 300 million consumers to date. <http://bit.ly/2deFhJe>

### **The microcephaly-Zika virus connection**

[The Lancet Infectious Diseases](#) published on Sept. 15 an editorial co-authored by Dr. Karin Nielsen, professor of clinical pediatrics in the division of pediatric infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, commenting on a study in the journal finding that babies who were infected with Zika in utero were more than 50 times more likely to have microcephaly and 100 times likelier to have a brain abnormality than uninfected babies. The editorial was cited Sept. 15 by the [Los Angeles Times](#), [STAT](#), and [Science Daily](#), and on Sept. 16 by [Medical News Today](#).

### **Opinion: Prop 64 and the role of parents and children**

The [Los Angeles Times](#) published on Sept. 21 an op-ed by Elizabeth D'Amico, adjunct professor of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, about the role of parents and children in the context of Proposition 64.

### **Increase in antibiotic-resistant bacteria hinders treatment of kidney infections**

A study published in *Emerging Infectious Diseases* finding that antibiotic-resistant bacteria are making it more difficult to treat kidney infections was reported Sept. 16 by [Science Daily](#), [MedicalXpress](#) and [News-Medical.net](#); Sept. 17 by [Indian Express](#) and [Technology](#), and Sept. 19 by [Nephrology News](#). Lead author Dr. David Talan, a professor in the department of emergency medicine and in the UCLA Division of Infectious Diseases, was quoted.

### **Physician pens columns on attributes of sleep**

Dr. Alon Avidan, professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Center, authored two guest columns in *Men's Health*: A Sept. 19 [article](#) on the reasons behind the vivid dreams we have right before we wake up in the morning and a Sept. 21 [piece](#) on sleep positions and the impact of sleeping on our stomach.

### **Dietitian explains the health benefits of a plant-based diet**

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, wrote a guest column Sept. 17 in [SELF](#) on why she follows a plant-based diet and the benefits of such diets. She also wrote a Sept. 17 [Huffington Post](#) op-ed about the ability of humans and non-human animals to show empathy.

### **UCLA doctor talks to KNBC about hot car death prevention tips**

Tragically, every year too many kids are left in hot cars and die from heat stroke. Dr. Gary Small, Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and professor of psychiatry & biobehavioral sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was interviewed on the topic Sept. 19 by [KNBC-TV](#). He provided tips to help parents remember that their child is in the backseat.

### **Parents accidentally overdose their children**

Dr. Carlos Lerner, associate professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was interviewed Sept. 19 on [National Public Radio](#) and Sept. 21 by [Natural News](#) about a new study finding that parents often make mistakes when measuring medicine to treat their sick children's symptoms.

### **Biological dark matter molecule plays surprise role in heart failure**

[Bioscience Technology](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [Cardiovascular Business](#) and [BioPortfolio](#) reported Sept. 21 on a new UCLA study that identified a molecule that appears to play a key role in the development of heart failure. The study's senior author, Yibin Wang, a professor in the departments of anesthesiology, physiology and medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

#### **UCLA Health volunteer named Hero of the Week**

KNX-AM featured Sept. 15 a segment recognizing Sharon House, a UCLA Health volunteer, as the KNX Hero of the Week. House volunteers at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center with the Heal My HeART program and with the People-Animal Connection, along with her dog Pinky  
**KNX:** <http://bit.ly/2dd4Up2>

#### **Healing the heart with music and art**

[HealthCanal](#) on Sept. 20 featured UCLA Health's new Heal My HeART program, in which hospital volunteers skilled in art and music visit heart transplant patients to help alleviate stress and promote optimism. Dr. Martin Cadeiras, an assistant clinical professor of cardiology at UCLA, and Anthony Chan, nursing director of the cardiac care unit, were quoted.

### **NOTABLE BRIEFS**

AFP cited research led by Dr. Zaldy Tan, associate professor of medicine in the division of geriatrics and medical director of the UCLA Alzheimer's and Dementia Care Program, suggesting that regular physical activity for older adults could lead to higher brain volumes and a reduced risk for developing dementia. The article was carried Sept. 20 [HuffPost Living \(Canada\)](#) and Sept. 21 by [star2.com](#).

A 2012 UCLA study on the impact of late night cramming and lack of sleep on learning was mentioned Sept. 13 in a [Psychology Today](#) story on enhancing memory.

"AskCHIS," a free web query tool developed by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited Sept. 22 in an article on the web site of [KPCC-FM](#) about type 2 diabetes in California.

Research conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health about public health care spending was cited Sept. 22 by the [Ventura County Star](#) and Sept. 17 by [CalWatchdog](#).

A Sept. 15 article published by [ATTN:](#) cited research conducted by the WORLD Policy Analysis Center at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health comparing the public health impact of paid sick leave across nations.

A resilience training program for pediatric residents at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA was referenced in a Sept. 12 story in Proto magazine, a publication of Massachusetts General Hospital. Brenda Bursch, a clinical professor in the departments of pediatrics and psychiatry & biobehavioral sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

### **NOTABLE QUOTABLES**

Susan Babey, senior research scientist and co-director of the Chronic Disease Program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Sept. 18 in a Riverside [Press-Enterprise](#) article about healthy grocery store food options. The article was republished Sept. 19 by the [San Bernardino County Sun](#) and the [Los Angeles Daily News](#).

Dr. James Cherry, a distinguished research professor of infectious diseases at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Mattel Children's Hospital, was quoted Sept. 16 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. 15 in a [HealthDay](#) article on a study which found premature babies born before 29 weeks of gestation may have a greater risk of high blood pressure in young adulthood. The article was also published by [UPI](#). Separately, Fonarow was quoted Sept. 17 in [Cardiology Today](#) regarding new findings that age-adjusted hospitalizations for heart failure are declining in the U.S. In a related [Cardiology Today video](#), Fonarow noted that physicians should also focus on preventative measures to reduce heart failure hospitalizations.

Dr. Richard Finn, co-director of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Signal Transduction and Therapeutics Program, was quoted Sept. 19 in [Targeted Oncology](#) about a phase III liver cancer trial.

Deborah Glik, professor of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Sept. 19 in [FiveThirtyEight](#) about cellphone emergency alert systems.

Dr. Sara Hurvitz, associate professor of hematology and oncology and a member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted Sept. 19 in the [News-Sentinel](#) about advancements in Her2-positive therapies. She also discussed the FDA approved drug, IBRANCE which was investigated at UCLA.

Gerald Kominski, professor of health policy and management and director of the Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Sept. 16 in a [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) article about public health care spending.

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 Fielding School, commented in the September issue of [The Lancet Oncology](#) about the 2016 presidential candidates' competing visions for U.S. healthcare, particularly the impact on cancer patients.

Dr. Christopher Saigal, professor and vice chair of the UCLA Department of Urology and a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, commented Sept. 15 on [KPCC-FM](#) about a New England Journal of Medicine study of prostate cancer patients followed for 10 years and randomly selected for treatment that included surgery and radiation or active monitoring.

Dr. A. Nick Shamie, orthopaedic spine surgeon with the UCLA Spine Center in Santa Monica and clinical professor of orthopaedic surgery, was quoted in a Sept. 19 [SpineUniverse.com](#) article on whether sit-and-stand desks contribute to back pain and other spine problems.

Dr. Gary Small, director of geriatric psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, commented Sept. 21 in a [CNBC](#) story on tips to boost your memory of the names of people you meet. The story was picked up Sept. 21 in [Yahoo! Finance](#).

Dr. Peter Whybrow, director of the Semel Institute and distinguished professor and executive chair in the department of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, was quoted Sept. 11 in a [ModernMom](#) story about screen time and dopamine released in the brain when kids use technology.

Sean Young, associate professor of family medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and executive director of the UCLA Department of Family Medicine-based University of California Institute for Prediction Technology (UCIPT), was quoted Sept. 16 in an NPR "[Shots](#)" article about people driving while playing Pokemon Go.

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