



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Sept. 19-25, 2014

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Vivity Partnership Continues to Draw Media Coverage

LA Times Spotlights Research on Debilitating Morning Sickness

PBS Nova Examines the Science of Vaccinations

NBC Today Show Talks to Anxious Teens

Geriatrician Discusses Transition to Assisted Living Facility

Prof Pens Time Magazine Article on Disciplining Children

Beverly Hills Courier Reports on Critical Care Study

Pampering Patient Moms

Media Connect with Therapy Animals

People with Type 2 Diabetes Can't Clear Toxic Proteins

A Community College Pathway Can Boost Physician Shortage for Underserved

Healthcare Trade Focuses on Innovation

Telemedicine Platform Continues to Garner Interest

Entertainment Trade Notes Upcoming Visionary Ball

Media Note UCLA Spark Campaign for Study of Cancer Survivors and Sexuality

Sleep Publication Examines Role of a Peptide in Human Narcolepsy

KFI Explores Dying of a Broken Heart

BRIEFS

QUOTABLES

Vivity Partnership Continues to Draw Media Coverage

[KPCC 89.9FM](#), [San Fernando Business Journal](#), [Bloomberg Business Week](#), [Health IT Analytics](#), [HealthLeaders Media](#), and [Modern Healthcare](#), among others, covered the Sept. 17 announcement that UCLA Health System and six other top hospital systems in Los Angeles and Orange counties have

partnered with Anthem Blue Cross to offer [Anthem Blue Cross Vivity](#), an integrated managed health plan that will be offered to local employers. This partnership — the first in the nation between an insurer and competing hospital systems — will help the medical centers enhance the health of all Anthem Blue Cross Vivity members and enable them to share financial risk and gain. The [Los Angeles Times](#) ran a Sept. 24 editorial on the partnership. Dr. David T. Feinberg, the president of UCLA Health System and CEO for the UCLA Hospital System, was quoted in some of the coverage.

LA Times Spotlights Research on Debilitating Morning Sickness

The [Los Angeles Times](#) Sept. 19 cited the research of Marlena Fejzo in an article on the extreme morning sickness condition known as hyperemesis gravidarum. Fejzo, an associate researcher in the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted. The Los Angeles Times story also appeared in [The Chicago Tribune](#).

PBS Nova Examines the Science of Vaccinations

Dr. Daniel Geschwind, professor of neurology, psychiatry, and genetics, and director of the UCLA Neurogenetics Program and the UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment at the Semel Institute, was featured in a Sept. 10 PBS [Nova](#) program about vaccinations. Geschwind discussed the fears of a link between vaccines and autism, and noted that the genetic evidence points to autism developing in infants prior to any vaccines they would receive.

NBC Today Show Talks to Anxious Teens

Dr. John Piacentini, professor of psychiatry in the Semel Institute, and director of the UCLA Child OCD, Anxiety, and Tic Disorders Program, was featured in a Sept. 17 NBC [Today Show](#) segment about adolescents and anxiety, and the fact that one in eight children suffers from an anxiety disorder.

Geriatrician Discusses Transition to Assisted Living Facility

Dr. Susan Leonard, assistant clinical professor of medicine in the division of geriatrics, appeared Sept. 23 on the Hallmark Channel's "Home & Family" ([1](#), [2](#)) in a segment on transitioning elderly parents into an assisted living facility.

Prof Pens Time Magazine Article on Disciplining Children

Dr. Daniel J. Siegel, associate clinical professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute and the founding co-director of the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center, co-wrote a Sept. 23 [Time](#) magazine article making the argument that using "time-outs" to discipline a child for behavior doesn't work, and that a better solution might be a "time-in" where a parent might sit with the child, talking or comforting.

Beverly Hills Courier Reports on Critical Care Study

The [Beverly Hills Courier](#) Sept. 19 reported on a UCLA study that found that providing futile care in the ICU denies other patients care that would help them. Dr. Neil S. Wenger, a professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, a RAND Health scientist and director of the UCLA Health Ethics Center at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Dr. Thanh Huynh, an assistant professor of medicine in the division of pulmonary and critical care medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, were quoted.

Pampering Patient Moms

Telemundo's [KVEA-Channel 52](#) featured Sept. 22 an event with the Chase Child Life program and the nonprofit Beauty Bus which provides twice yearly pop-up salons at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA. The salon provides free haircuts, make-up, manicures and facials with beauty professionals to well-deserving moms and other caregivers of pediatric patients.

Media Connect with Therapy Animals

The [Beverly Hills Courier](#) reported Sept. 19 on a celebration of the volunteers who are part of the UCLA People-Animal Connection (PAC), a 20-year-old program that provides animal-assisted therapy to patients in the UCLA Health System. The article cited a recent donation by philanthropist Paula Kent Meehan which helped establish a new feature of the PAC program called "Paula's Pet Pals" that allows a patient's own pets to visit them. Erin Rice, director of PAC, was quoted. In addition, [KTLA-Channel 5](#)

aired a Sept. 24 report on animal-therapy programs, featuring the UCLA People-Animal Connection Program at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Laila Ramji, child-life specialist, and Barbara Chung, PAC volunteer, commented in the segment.

People with Type 2 Diabetes Can't Clear Toxic Proteins

[OnIslam.net](#) Sept. 18 spotlighted research co-led by Safia Costes, a research scientist at the Larry L. Hillblom Islet Research Center at UCLA, finding that a process called autophagy that clears damaged and toxic proteins from cells does not appear to work in people with Type 2 diabetes, resulting in the destruction of pancreatic beta cells that play a key role in maintaining healthy blood sugar levels.

A Community College Pathway Can Boost Physician Shortage for Underserved

[Science Codex](#) Sept. 23, and [University Herald](#) and [Health Canal](#) Sept. 24 reported on research led by Dr. Efrain Talamantes, a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar alumni and current National Health Service Award Scholar in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that physicians who attended community college before entering medical school were more likely than others to commit to working with underserved populations, indicating that a community college pathway may be a rich source of physicians for poor communities. Talamantes was quoted.

Healthcare Trade Focuses on Innovation

The [Health Leadership Forum](#) Sept. 23 featured an in-depth interview with Dr. Molly Coye, chief innovation officer at UCLA Health System, to discuss her work, the challenges facing executives at academic medical centers, and ways to measure the impact of innovative initiatives.

Telemedicine Platform Continues to Garner Interest

[Health Data Management](#) Sept. 22 reported that doctors from UCLA Health System are now available by smartphone, tablet or laptop through [LiveHealth Online](#), a telehealth solution for business travelers, busy parents, students away at college, or anybody else who needs non-emergency medical attention when their own doctors are not available. Dr. Samuel Skootsky, chief medical officer of the UCLA Faculty Practice Group and Medical Group, was quoted.

Entertainment Trade Notes Upcoming Visionary Ball

[Look to the Stars](#) Sept. 24 announced that the UCLA Department of Neurosurgery will hold its annual "Visionary Ball" on Oct. 30th at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel with talk show host Arsenio Hall as emcee and Wilson Phillips to headline the entertainment. Dr. Neil Martin, professor and chairman of UCLA's Department of Neurosurgery, was cited.

Media Note UCLA Spark Campaign for Study of Cancer Survivors and Sexuality

Dr. Nicole Prause, an associate research scientist in the department of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, was featured Sept. 24 in [WestsideToday.com](#) and [MyNewsLA.com](#) about her UCLA Spark [campaign](#) to raise funds for a study of female cancer survivors who report a loss of sexual drive.

Sleep Publication Examines Role of a Peptide in Human Narcolepsy

Dr. Jerome Siegel, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute, and chief of neurobiology research at the Sepulveda Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Mission Hills, Calif., was interviewed in the Sept. 23 [SleepReviewMag.com](#) about his research that identified the normal function of the peptide hypocretin in humans, and its probable role in causing human narcolepsy.

KFI Explores Dying of a Broken Heart

A Sept. 11 segment on [KFI 640AM](#) featured an interview with Dr. Ravi Dave, clinical professor of cardiology, UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, who discussed the impact of the death of a loved one on heart health.

BRIEFS

An article in the Sept. 24 [The Conversation](#) referenced a brain imaging study by Dr. Andrew Leuchter, professor of psychiatry and director of the UCLA Laboratory of Brain, Behavior, and Pharmacology at the Semel Institute, that showed abnormalities in the way the depressed brain works.

Diana Winston, director of mindfulness education at the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center (MARC), was cited in a Sept. 19 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about anxiety. The article also referenced the fact that MARC offers a free meditation session on Thursdays at lunchtime at the Hammer Museum in Westwood, led by Winston.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, commented in a Sept. 19 [HealthDay News](#) article about a study showing how bacteria from pneumonia can damage the heart. The article also ran on [Philly.com](#).

Dr. David Hovda, professor of neurosurgery and director of the Brain Injury Research Center, was quoted in a Sept. 19 [NBCNews.com](#) article about how people, such as football players, who suffer repeated blows to the head could, over time, become less inhibited.

Dr. Kirsten Tillisch, associate clinical professor of medicine in the division of digestive diseases, was interviewed for a Sept. 17 [NPR](#) segment on how diet sodas may alter gut microbes in a way that increases the risk of metabolic diseases such as Type 2 diabetes.

Dr. Neil Wenger, director of the UCLA Health Ethics Center, was quoted in a Sept. 21 [Los Angeles Times](#) article about issues that patients, families and healthcare workers should discuss to help ensure a patient's end-of-life wishes are honored.

Dr. Gail Wyatt, an associate director of the UCLA AIDS Institute, was quoted in a Sept. 18 article in [The Guardian](#) (U.K.) examining why adaptation of the HIV drug Truvada for use as pre-exposure prophylaxis has been so slow, despite research showing that it is highly effective in preventing infection with the virus that causes AIDS.

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