



# Health

## UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT September 21 - September 27, 2018

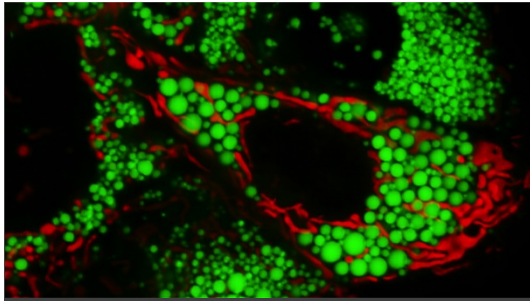
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[Nature](#): Immunotherapy offers promise against brain cancer

(Photo: UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center)





[LABJ](#): Startup aims to shorten time between scientific insight and therapies

(Photo: Ilan Benador)



[United Press International](#): Scientists reverse a sensory impairment in mice with autism

(Photo: UCLA)



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## FEATURED

### **Immunotherapy offers promise against brain cancer**

Dr. Linda Liao, chair of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was featured in a [Nature](#) story about innovative strategies researchers are using to retrain the immune system to defeat brain cancer. Liao invented one of the first personalized vaccines for glioblastoma, the most deadly form of brain cancer.

### **Startup aims to shorten time between scientific insight and therapies**

[Los Angeles Business Journal](#) reported that the Metabolism Theme within the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA is launching startup Enspire Bio to speed the process of turning new scientific insights into treatments that help patients, with an emphasis on metabolism research and therapies. Dr. Orian Shirihai, leader of the Metabolism Theme, and Amir Naiberg, associate vice chancellor and president and CEO of the UCLA Technology Development Corporation, were quoted.

### **Scientists reverse a sensory impairment in mice with autism**

[United Press International](#), [New Atlas](#), [Technology Networks](#), [Medical Xpress](#) and [MyScience.org](#) reported that UCLA scientists have reversed a sensory impairment in mice with symptoms of autism. Anubhuti Goel, a postdoctoral researcher in neurology at UCLA and the study's first author, was quoted.

### **CDC issues first guidelines for treating pediatric concussion**

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 UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital, was interviewed by Sacramento-based [Capital Public Radio](#) about new guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric concussions.

### **New hope for spinal cord injury patients**

A new approach that combines intensive physical therapy with electrical spinal stimulation enabled a young man to take steps with a walker five years after he was partially paralyzed from a spinal cord injury. Co-led by UCLA and the Mayo Clinic, the study was published in *Nature Medicine* and covered by [Mashable](#), [TIME](#), [Smithsonian Magazine](#), [The Guardian](#) and 70 other outlets worldwide.

### **Kenneth Wells wins 2018 Sarnat International Prize in Mental Health**

[Medical.net](#) and [Medicine Newsline](#) reported that Dr. Kenneth Wells, the David Weil Professor of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine, is the sole recipient of the 2018 Rhoda and Bernard Sarnat International Prize in Mental Health given by the National Academy of Medicine.

### **UCLA Mattel is named one of the most innovative children's hospitals**

[Beverly Hills Courier](#) published a story about UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital's recognition as one of the most innovative children's hospitals in a designation by Parent's magazine. Johnese Spisso, president of UCLA Health and CEO of the UCLA Hospital System, including UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital; Dr. Sherin Devaskar, physician-in-chief of UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital; and Desert Horse-Grant, senior director of research and innovation at UCLA Health, were quoted.

### **Zika affects babies' eyes, as well as the brain**

[Healio](#) reported on a study by Dr. Irena Tsui, a retinal surgeon at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, emphasizing that all infants born during Zika outbreaks should be universally screened for eye abnormalities. During an outbreak in Brazil in 2015 and 2016, about 25% of infants exposed to the Zika virus developed vision problems. The findings were published by *Pediatrics*.

### **Explaining the link between oral contraceptives, severe migraines and stroke risk**

Dr. Andrew Charles, director of the UCLA Goldberg Migraine Program and a professor of neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was interviewed by [Neurology Advisor](#) on studies evaluating whether oral contraceptives increase stroke risk in women who suffer migraines with aura.

### **Mobile stroke unit now serving Beverly Hills and Malibu**

[Beverly Hills Courier](#) and [The Malibu Times](#) reported that the UCLA mobile stroke unit is expanding the pilot program services to the Beverly Hills and Malibu areas. Dr. May Nour, medical director of the UCLA Arline and Henry Gluck Stroke Rescue Program, was quoted. (The Courier story starts on page 5.)

### **Lack of sleep affects your waistline**

[Healthline](#) published a story about how lack of sleep may contribute to weight gain that featured Dr. Alon Avidan, a professor and vice chair of the Department of Neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Center.

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### **Tips for parents with kids hooked on video games**

The Today Show featured Dr. Gary Small, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, in a news segment about children who are constantly playing video games and the potential developmental effects of doing so. The segment appeared on more than 150 local stations nationwide.

### **Are collagen-infused products worth the hype?**

[Mic](#) interviewed Dr. Zhaoping Li, director at the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, for a story about collagen's nutritional value and whether collagen supplements can help the skin.

### **Choosing between cardio and strength training**

[U.S. News & World Report](#) interviewed Dr. Daniel Vigil, associate clinical professor of family medicine and orthopaedic surgery at the [David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA](#), for a story about the different ways that cardiovascular and strength training affect health. The story was syndicated by [MSN](#).

### **New findings shed light on genes linked to autism**

[Spectrum](#) reported on new research finding that a particular protein may be a regulator for some of the hundreds of genes linked to autism. The study's author, Daniel Geschwind, a professor of neurology and psychiatry and the Gordon and Virginia MacDonald Distinguished Chair in Human Genetics, was quoted.

### **FDA lauded for crackdown on e-cigarette sales**

Linda Sarna, dean of the UCLA School of Nursing, discussed the recent crackdown by the FDA on e-cigarette sales to youth, what oncology nurses need to understand about e-cigarettes and how to educate patients in a wide-ranging interview for [Oncology Nursing News](#).

### **Can 'psychological space' help us grow?**

[Psychology Today](#) published an article written by Stephen Sideroff, an assistant professor in the department of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at UCLA, about psychological space, or the acceptance of yourself while learning something new.

### **What patients should know about prostate cancer**

[Health News Digest](#) featured Dr. Christopher Saigal, vice chair of urology, in a story about three facts patients should know about prostate cancer. Saigal is a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

### **The fruit you should reach for first**

[MEL Magazine](#) interviewed Dana Hunnes, a senior dietitian at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and an adjunct assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, for a story examining the nutritional quality of various fruits.

### **STI rates continue to rise across the U.S.**

[South Florida Gay News](#) interviewed Dr. Jeffrey Klausner about rising STI rates as a public health emergency. Klausner is an adjunct professor of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and a professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

### **Online diabetes prevention programs as effective as in-person programs**

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[dLife](#) reported on research led by Dr. Tannaz Moin finding that online diabetes prevention programs are as effective as in-person sessions for weight loss. Moin, assistant professor of medicine in the division of endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism, was quoted in the coverage.

#### **Interest in caregiver boot camp grows nationwide**

WABG-TV, Greenville, Mississippi, reported on the UCLA Improving Caregiving for Dementia Caregiver boot camp, a one-day program for caregivers of people with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. Dr. Zaldy Tan, medical director of the UCLA Alzheimer's and Dementia Care Program and assistant dean for curricular affairs at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

#### **Armenian leaders welcome Chancellor Gene Block and Dr. Eric Esrailian**

[Public Radio of Armenia](#), [The Armenian Weekly](#), [MediaMax](#), [Armedia.am](#), [Armenpress News](#) and [News.am](#) reported that UCLA Chancellor Gene Block and Dr. Eric Esrailian, co-chief of the Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases, visited Armenia to meet with President Armen Sarkissian and Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan. Esrailian co-produced "The Promise," a recent film on the Armenian genocide, and the UCLA School of Law launched The Promise Institute for Human Rights with the help of a gift funded in part by proceeds from the film.

#### **Improving treatment of men with prostate cancer**

[Medicalresearch.com](#) reported on a new study finding that combining radiation and androgen deprivation therapy (hormonal therapy) is critical in treating men with advanced prostate cancer. The senior author, Dr. Amar Kishan, assistant professor of radiation oncology and member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was cited.

#### **Using immunotherapy to treat rare cancers**

Dr. Arun Singh, an associate professor of medicine, and a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive cancer Center, was featured in an [OncLive](#) video discussing immunotherapy as a treatment for uterine leiomyosarcoma, a rare sarcoma.

#### **\$1 million donation will expand endowed chair in geriatrics**

The [Los Angeles Business Journal](#) reported that Archstone Foundation has donated \$1 million to UCLA to expand an endowed chair in geriatrics to improve the health care of older people. Dr. David Reuben, chief of the UCLA Division of Geriatrics, now holds the Archstone Foundation Endowed Chair and was quoted.

#### **Stem cell genetic signature found in aggressive cancers**

[Technology Networks](#) reported on a UCLA study that found genetic similarities between adult epithelial stem cells and the cells that drive aggressive epithelial cancers. Dr. Owen Witte, founding director of the UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center and a distinguished professor of microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics, and Thomas Graeber, a member of the UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center, director of the UCLA Metabolomics Center and professor of molecular and medical pharmacology, led the research. Both are members of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

#### **NPR spotlights the International Medical Graduate program**

NPR affiliate station [KVCR-FM](#), San Bernardino, reported on the UCLA International Medical Graduate program, which helps legal U.S. residents who have graduated from Latin American medical schools earn California medical licenses. Dr. Michelle Bholat,

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executive director of the program and executive vice chair of family medicine, commented.

### **This week in 'Ask the Doctors'**

UCLA Health internists 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. Glazier is an associate professor of medicine, and Ko is an assistant professor of medicine. A sampling of stories from this past week's column:

- On 'food challenges,' in Texas' [The Courier of Montgomery County](#).
- On the risks of use of cannabis for morning sickness, in Massachusetts' [The Berkshire Eagle](#).
- On the correlation between pubic grooming and STIs, in Washington's [The Spokesman-Review](#).

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## QUOTED

*"The best advice that might save lives of loved ones if a cardiac arrest occurs is to learn CPR."*

- Dr. Gregg Fonarow to [Reuters Health](#)



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**Dr. Elizabeth Barnert**, an assistant professor of pediatrics at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital, was quoted in [The Desert Sun](#) about the experiences of a teenager who was separated from his family at the U.S. border.

**Amander Clark**, a professor and chair of the department of molecular, cell and developmental biology and a member of the UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center, was quoted by [NPR](#) about a team of scientists who turned human blood cells into very immature human eggs.

**Steve Cole**, an adjunct professor of medicine in the division of hematology-oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented in a [Science News](#) story about a

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Duke University study associating immune-system function to social status in monkeys, and changes in DNA that affect overall health.

**Dr. Gregg Fonarow**, the Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and co-chief of cardiology, was quoted by [Reuters Health](#) about a study finding that survival after cardiac arrest may depend on which emergency management system agency shows up.

- Fonarow was also quoted by [Healthline](#) about a study finding that prescribing statins along with blood pressure medications improves the survival odds for people with hypertension.

**Mary Rezk-Hanna**, an assistant professor at the UCLA School of Nursing, was interviewed on the dangers of hookah smoking in a story published by BBC Health Check and National Public Radio affiliates in 16 markets, including New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Sacramento's Capitol Public Radio.

**Dr. Cheryl Hoffman**, a health sciences associate professor and UCLA Health radiologist, commented to [CNN.com](#) on a new study showing that taller people have a greater risk of developing varicose veins. The article was reprinted in more than 25 other news outlets.

**Dana Hunnes**, a senior dietitian at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and an adjunct assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted by [Well+Good](#) about the health effects of medium-chain triglyceride, or MCT, oil.

**Dr. Kristopher Jones**, an assistant clinical professor and orthopaedic surgeon at the UCLA Orthopaedic Center in Santa Monica, commented to [Bloomberg Business News](#) on MACI, a procedure that repairs damaged knee cartilage by using cells taken and grown from the patient's own healthy cartilage.

**Dr. Nina Shapiro**, a professor of pediatric head and neck surgery at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital, was quoted by [Healthline](#) about the dangers of infants using walkers.

**Dr. Vivian Shibayma**, an optometrist at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, commented in a [SELF.com](#) article explaining why our eyes water when we yawn.

**Dr. Jeffrey Veale**, director of the UCLA Kidney Transplantation Exchange Program, commented in a [WINKNews.com](#) story about the kidney shortage and a veteran's use of an advertisement to find a donor.

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## BRIEFS

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[Harper's Bazaar UK](#), in a story about the benefits of yoga, referenced a UCLA study suggesting that Kundalini yoga has benefits for patients with early signs of memory loss.

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was voted “best hospital” and UCLA Health was voted “best medical group” in [The Argonaut](#) newspaper’s annual “Best of the Westside” reader’s choice competition.

[The Santa Clarita Valley Signal](#) referenced that a team of physicians at UCLA were able to diagnose a Santa Clarita Valley resident with autoimmune hepatitis.

[The Los Angeles Times](#), in an article by the editorial board in support of Proposition 4, referenced aid for which UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital would be eligible. [San Diego Free Press](#) also referenced the eligible aid.

[LIVEKINDLY](#) and [One Green Planet](#) noted that UCLA Health and various companies are taking steps toward plant-based food service.

An article in [LAist](#) about finding an LGBTQ-friendly doctor in Los Angeles referenced UCLA Health and its list of “LGBTQ Champions,” physicians with special expertise in LGBTQ care.

A [Drug Development Technology](#) article about a Phase III clinical trial examining the safety and efficacy of Toca 511 and Toca FC in the treatment of recurrent glioblastoma cited Dr. Timothy Cloughesy, professor of neuro-oncology and member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, who will chair the trial.

A [Global Genes](#) story reported on the National Institutes of Health launching new Undiagnosed Disease Networks and refunding existing ones, including at UCLA.

[Santa Monica Daily Press](#) reported that Barbara Browning, a former longtime employee at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, and a current volunteer in its Nethercutt Emergency Center, was recognized as the Rotary Club of Santa Monica’s “Unsung Hero of the Month” for her work as a community volunteer.

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**CONTENT CREATED BY MEDIA RELATIONS**

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[UCLA Health Connect blog](#): Urologist's first pitch at Dodgers game raises awareness for prostate cancer

(Photo: Courtesy of Los Angeles Dodgers)



[Scientists reverse a sensory impairment in mice with autism](#) UCLA Newsroom

[UCLA-led Health Equity Network of the Americas is created to address gaps in health, longevity](#)  
UCLA Newsroom

[Online diabetes prevention programs are as effective as in-person sessions for weight loss, study finds](#) UCLA Newsroom

[Endowed chair in geriatrics expanded thanks to foundation support](#) UCLA Newsroom

[Health policy professor recognized for work on immigrant health](#) UCLA Newsroom

[Researcher wins international award for improving mental health in underserved communities](#)  
UCLA Newsroom

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This report features media placements about 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 about 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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