CNN: UCLA to screen all incoming students for mental health

(Photo: Matt Harbich/UCLA)
**UCLA to screen all incoming students for mental health**

The San Jose Mercury News, CNN, California Healthline, KPCC and more than a half dozen other local, state and national outlets reported on an announcement by UCLA Chancellor Gene Block that the university would offer free mental health screening to all incoming students. The announcement by Block came during a speech at the One Mind Initiative at Work summit. The Mercury News article quoted both Block and Dr. Nelson Freimer, director of the UCLA Depression Grand Challenge and the Center for Neurobehavioral Genetics, professor of psychiatry at UCLA and associate director for research programs of the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior.

**Many patients find breast cancer radiation isn’t as scary as they thought**

HealthDay, Healio, Medical Xpress and Science Newsline published stories about UCLA research finding that among patients undergoing radiation therapy for breast cancer, nine in 10 found the experience to be less scary than anticipated. Dr. Narek Shaverdian, lead author and radiation oncology resident at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Dr. Susan McCloskey, senior author and assistant professor of radiation oncology, were quoted. The HealthDay story appeared in more than 50 online outlets, including U.S. News and World Report, Everyday Health and WebMD.

**California’s STI rates rise for third year in a row**

KPCC and KNX-AM featured Dr. Jeffrey Klausner in stories about new California Department of Public Health statistics showing that rates of sexually transmitted infections rose in the state for the third year in a row. 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. Breitbart picked up his KPCC comments.

**Medicaid’s link to healthier future generations**

The Wall Street Journal highlighted a working paper co-authored by Laura Wherry.
suggesting that women whose mothers had Medicaid coverage when pregnant were likelier to have healthier children themselves in the future. Wherry is an assistant professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research.

**Kidney vouchers lead to multiple lifesaving transplants**

New Scientist, Gizmodo and Nephrology News reported on research led by Dr. Jeffrey Veale, director of the UCLA Kidney Exchange Program, that traced how the first three "voucher cases" led to 25 kidney transplants across the United States. Gizmodo Australia and Gears of Biz published the Gizmodo story.

**Kicking and killing HIV**

EDGE Media Network and Science Daily highlighted research led by Matthew Marsden, an assistant professor of medicine in the division of hematology oncology, on a synthetic molecule that can reactivate, or “kick,” latent HIV in humanized mice and lead to the death of infected cells. Jerome Zack, director of the UCLA Center for AIDS Research, is the paper’s senior author. The EDGE article ran in seven of the network’s papers, including those in San Francisco, Boston, Philadelphia and Phoenix.

**Earthquakes associated with rise in heart attacks**

Dr. Boback Ziaeian, a clinical instructor in the division of cardiology at UCLA and the VA Greater Los Angeles, commented in a Reuters article about a New Zealand study that found the incidence of heart attacks spiked in areas struck hardest by a set of 2010 and 2011 earthquakes in Christchurch. The Reuters story was syndicated in 20 outlets including Huffington Post, MSN.com and Cardiovascular Business.

**More coverage on e-cigarette study**

Everyday Health, Scroll, The Irish Sun, Industrial Safety and Hygiene News, Daily Messenger, Health News Digest, The Indy Channel, WWNY-TV, KAIT-TV and a Reuters report syndicated by Newsmax, Japan Today and Newsline reported on a new study finding that healthy nonsmokers experienced increased adrenaline levels in their hearts after one electronic cigarette with nicotine. Dr. Holly Middlekauff, senior study author and professor of medicine (cardiology) and physiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted.

**Making the birth plan work**

Medscape featured an article on creating a flexible and workable birth plan that can help the mother be satisfied with her birthing experience. Shadman Habibi, a certified nurse midwife at UCLA Health, was interviewed.

**Congenital heart program earns top distinction**

The Los Angeles Business Journal reported that the Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center received accreditation from the Adult Congenital Heart Assn., a national support agency. UCLA is one of 11 centers to earn the new designation. Dr. Jamil Aboulhosn, director of the Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Center, was quoted.

**Monitoring drug-resistant gonorrhea**

Contagion Live reported on a study co-authored by Dr. Jeffrey Klausner demonstrating that molecular methods to predict susceptibility testing offer a potential new way to monitor gonorrhea drug resistance in the United States. Klausner is 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.
Meds to Beds program delivers prescriptions to patients
The Austin American-Statesman, Atlanta Journal Constitution, Palm Beach Post and Dayton Daily News syndicated a Washington Post story featuring a service offered at UCLA Health and other hospitals in which pharmacists deliver prescriptions to patients and review them before they are discharged from the hospital. The service was designed to help patients ease the transition to home and to prevent re-hospitalizations.

UCLA-led study shows Mexican Americans at higher risk for liver cancer
UPI, Newsline, The Southern, Health On The Net Foundation, Philly.com, Hanford Sentinel, Lincoln Journal Star, Lompoc Record, Medical Xpress, Drugs.com and dozens of other media outlets featured research led by Yvonne Flores, assistant researcher in the department of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, and a member of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, about increased liver cancer rates among Mexican Americans compared to people living in Mexico.

UCLA researcher discusses a potential new treatment for liver cancer
Targeted Oncology featured Dr. Richard Finn, director of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Transduction and Therapeutics Program and associate professor of hematology and oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, who discussed the positive data results of lenvatinib compared to sorafenib for patients with hepatocellular carcinoma.

E-cigarettes and smoking cessation
Healio published a perspective by Dr. Michael Ong, associate professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, on a new study finding that most family physicians do not recommend e-cigarettes for smoking cessation.

Migraine reality: They’re not just in the head
The Bend Bulletin, Bend, Oregon, Times-Tribune, Scranton, Pennsylvania, and Register Guard, Eugene, Oregon, and four other publications ran a New York Times piece featuring Dr. Andrew Charles, a professor of neurology and director of the Goldberg Migraine Program at UCLA, discussing his recent New England Journal of Medicine publication about migraine treatments.

Try cognitive behavioral therapy for a brain boost
Gears of Biz featured recently published research by Dr. Jamie Feusner, director of the Adult Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Program at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, and UCLA research associate Teena Moody, about cognitive behavioral therapy for obsessive-compulsive disorder leading to increased connections in the brain.

Researchers use tiny diamonds to improve cleft palate treatments
Dentistry Today published a story about UCLA research on a new therapy for cleft palate that uses diamond fragments to reduce rates of relapse complications. Dr. Christine Hong, first author and assistant professor of orthodontics at UCLA School of Dentistry, and Dean Ho, professor of oral biology and medicine at UCLA School of Dentistry, were quoted.

Tips on reducing risks for Alzheimer’s
WBBM-AM, Chicago, and WWJ-AM, Detroit, broadcast a discussion with Karen Gylys, a
professor at the UCLA School of Nursing, about Alzheimer’s disease and how exercise and diet may help to ease progression of the condition.

Cardiologist comments on new treatment guidelines and biomarker testing

Medscape reported that the American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association released a new set of performance and quality measures for treating patients who suffer a heart attack. Dr. Gregg Fonarow, chair of the task force, was quoted.

- In a separate article, Fonarow was quoted in MedPage Today on the potential clinical role for a biomarker test called growth differentiation factor-15 in heart failure patients. Fonarow is the Eliot Corday Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center and co-chief of cardiology.

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 probiotics and depression, featured in Pinal Central
- On recovering from pneumonia, featured in Daily Herald
- On blood tests for ovarian cancer, featured in The Oklahoman
- On fibromyalgia, featured in The Times-Tribune
- On neurological symptoms that may necessitate testing, featured in The Spokesman-Review
- On cancer treatments and hair color, featured in Tulsa World.

QUOTED

“We already know that autism has very substantial genetic contributions. The question is: How much is genetic and how much is environmental?”

-Dr. Dan Geschwind in HealthDay
Dr. Vanessa Arguello, health sciences clinical instructor in the UCLA Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism, commented in a Reuters Health article on a new study finding that, on average, 30 percent of adults with type 2 diabetes delay taking insulin for two years after their doctors tell them to begin treatment. Business Insider, Health Medicine Network and 16 other outlets carried the article.

Dr. Deanna Attai, UCLA breast surgeon based in Burbank and assistant clinical professor of surgery, commented in a Healio.com article on social media sharing at medical conferences.

Dr. Jennifer Beck, assistant clinical professor and sports medicine specialist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, commented in a Bustle.com article why it is important to eat soon after exercising.

Dr. Nicholas Bernthal, assistant clinical professor and orthopaedic surgeon at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, commented in an Orthopaedics This Week article on under-reported adverse events.

Dr. James Cherry, distinguished research professor of pediatrics in the division of infectious diseases at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital and David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented in a NBCNews.com story about skepticism around the safety of vaccines. The story was syndicated in eight other online publications, including Valley News Live.

Dr. Mark De Antonio, a professor of clinical psychiatry and director of the inpatient child and adolescent psychiatric service at UCLA’s Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital, commented in a Kaiser Health News story about crisis care for adolescents and young adults with severe autism. The story appeared in eight publications, including Spectrum and Philly.com.

Dr. David Eisenman commented in a KQED-FM, San Francisco, report on ways that researchers are tracking heat where people live to find ways to fight it in the future. Eisenman is professor-in-residence of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research and director of the UCLA Center for Public Health and Disasters in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. KQED: http://bit.ly/2xO1JkG

Dr. Richard Finn, director of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Transduction and Therapeutics Program and associate professor of hematology and oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in Onclive and Targeted Oncology about the Food and Drug Administration accepting a new application for lenvatinib, a drug treatment for advanced liver cancer.

Dr. Matthew Freeby, director of the Gonda Diabetes Center, commented in a Parents article about the most important things to know about gestational diabetes.

Dr. Itzhak Fried, professor-in-residence of neurosurgery and psychiatry, commented in a story in The Scientist about research on brain activity and defining consciousness.

Dr. Edmond Hewlett, professor of restorative dentistry and associate dean for outreach
and diversity at the UCLA School of Dentistry, was quoted in a *Los Angeles Times* story about what to consider before getting a cosmetic dentistry procedure. The story was picked up in the *Sun Sentinel*.

**Dana Hunnes**, senior dietitian at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and adjunct assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented in a *Consumer Reports* story about how to choose healthier packaged foods.

**Dr. Dan Geschwind**, the Gordon and Virginia MacDonald Distinguished Chair in Human Genetics and a professor of neurology and psychiatry at UCLA’s David Geffen School of Medicine, was quoted in a *HealthDay* story about how genetics is a cause of autism in most cases. The story ran in 53 publications nationwide, including *WebMD*, the *Missoulian* and *Philly.com*.

**Dr. Shafali Jeste**, associate professor in psychiatry, neurology and pediatrics, commented in a *California Health Report* story about how special swimming lessons can save the lives of children with autism.

**Gerald Kominski**, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted in the *Los Angeles Times* about whether California could attain its own single-payer health system.

- He also commented in a *Los Angeles Times* column about conservatives' opposition to sharing the cost of paying for someone else's health care.

**Emanuel Maidenberg**, a clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine, commented in a *Forbes* article about changing careers when your job is unhealthy for you.

**Dr. Carol Mangione**, chief of the UCLA Division of General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research, was quoted in a *Healio* article on a U.S. Preventive Services Task Force draft recommendation that there is insufficient evidence about the benefits and harms of vitamin D and calcium supplementation for prevention of fractures in men and premenopausal women. Mangione, a professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, is a task force member.

**Dr. David A. Merrill**, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at UCLA’s Semel Institute, was quoted in a *HuffPost* article about a potential test to detect chronic traumatic encephalopathy in living people. The story also appeared in *Yahoo! News* and *Wow.com*.

**Mark Peterson**, faculty associate at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted in a *Reuters* article about the feasibility of President Trump’s reported executive order that would allow health insurance to be bought across state lines.

**Nadereh Pourat**, Fielding School professor-in-residence and the UCLA Center for Health Policy director of research, was quoted in a *DrBicuspid.com* story about how the Graham-Cassidy bill will affect dentist and dental coverage.
Dr. Antoni Ribas, director of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Tumor Immunology Program and professor of hematology and oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in *Targeted Oncology* about the results of a three-drug regimen for advanced, BRAF V600-mutant melanoma.

Erin Rice, director of the UCLA People-Animal Connection, was quoted in a *Cooking Light* article about the health benefits of animal-assisted therapy.

Dr. Sammy Saab, professor of medicine and surgery and head of outcomes research in hepatology, commented in a *Bloomberg Technology* article about Ocaliva, a drug that has been linked to the deaths of 19 liver patients who may have received incorrect doses.

Steve Thomas, a social worker at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was interviewed by Santa Monica City TV about the medical center’s participation in the city’s annual Health and Fitness Festival.

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**BRIEFS**

The *Health Affairs* blog cited new research co-authored by Kathryn Kietzman, research scientist at the Fielding School’s UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, on finding trusted information sources when making health insurance choices.

A *Gears of Biz* article about a University of Massachusetts, Amherst, environmental health scientist mentioned Dr. Richard Jackson, professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

A *Healthline* article cites research from the Fielding School’s UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in a story about serious health problems faced by the LGBT community.
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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