

UCLA

Health

**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Oct. 6 - 12, 2017**

Note: Website links may expire without notice. Some sites require password registration. If you cannot access a story or would like to obtain a copy, please call (310) 267-7022.



[PBS NewsHour](#): How a brain gets hooked on opioids

(Photo: Getty Images/iStock)



[Post](#)



[Tweet](#)

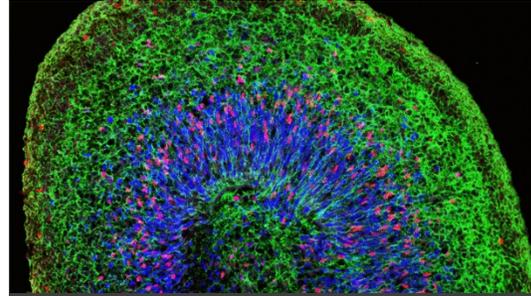


[Post](#)



[KCRW](#): Is youth football still safe?

(Photo: iStock)



[ScienceDaily](#): 'Mini brains' provide new insights

(Photo: Cell Reports)



How a brain gets hooked on opioids

A [PBS NewsHour](#) video and article about why we become addicted to opioids featured Chris Evans, director of the Shirley and Stefan Hatos Center for Neuropharmacology at UCLA's Semel Institute, and Cathy Cahill, a professor in the department of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at Semel. The story was excerpted in [Becker's Hospital Review](#).

Is youth football still safe?

[KCRW-FM's](#) "Madeline Brand Show" interviewed Dr. Christopher Giza, director of the UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program and a professor of pediatrics and neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, about whether it's safe for kids to play football.

New organoids could help scientists treat Zika, neurological diseases

[ScienceDaily](#), [Scienmag](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Biospace.com](#), [Publicnow](#), [ScienceNewslines](#), [Global News Connect](#), [Innovations Report](#), [Tech Site](#) and [Infection Control Today](#) reported on a new technique for creating simplified human brain tissue – "mini brains" – from stem cells to give scientists new insights into complex neurological diseases and infections like Zika. This research was led by Bennett Novitch, Ethel Scheibel Chair of Neuroscience and Professor of Neurobiology in the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and member of the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at UCLA.

NPR explores toxic substances in plastics

[National Public Radio](#) published a story about tips for limiting food's exposure to toxic substances that featured reproductive endocrinologist Nancy Wayne, a professor of physiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and associate vice chancellor for research. The story was syndicated by 22 NPR affiliates nationwide, including [KQED \(Sacramento\)](#) and [Oregon Public Broadcasting](#).

Trim low-cost health services to reduce unnecessary healthcare spending

[Life Science Daily](#), [Review of Systems](#), [FierceHealthcare](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [Healthcare Dive](#), [RevCycle Intelligence](#), [MedicalResearch.com](#), [ScienceBlog](#), [Science Daily](#) and three other outlets reported on research led by Dr. John Mafi, assistant professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, suggesting that low-cost, high-volume health services account for a high percentage of unnecessary health spending. Mafi was quoted in the coverage.

Black tea research steeps in news outlets worldwide

[Fortune](#), [New York Post](#), [Reader's Digest](#), [Express.co.uk](#), [The Oz Blog](#), HLN (formerly CNN's Headline News), KTLA-TV, [Men's Health](#) and 27 additional news outlets published stories on research finding that black tea may contribute to weight loss through a mechanism involving gut bacteria. Susanne Henning, lead author and adjunct professor at the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, and Dr. Zhaoping Li, senior author and director at the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, were quoted.

HLN: <http://bit.ly/2ziHARS>

KTLA-TV: <http://bit.ly/2wQN8Se>

Children with craniofacial defects face most pressures in elementary school

[Reuters](#) reported on a new study finding that elementary school children with craniofacial anomalies show higher levels of anxiety, depression and difficulties in peer interactions than middle- and high-school students with craniofacial defects. Dr. Justine Lee, an associate professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery who holds the Bernard G. Samat Endowed Chair in Craniofacial Biology, led the study. The Reuters article was syndicated in 24 outlets including [Business Insider](#), [7 News Australia](#) and [Deccan Chronicle](#).

Combination treatment targets glucose in advanced brain cancer

[Medical Xpress](#), [Health Canal](#) and [The Medical News](#) featured research led by David Nathanson, assistant professor in the department of molecular and medical pharmacology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, about a potential combination treatment that disrupts glucose in glioblastomas and prevents the brain tumor from getting bigger in preclinical models. Nathanson is a member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at UCLA.

Kicking and killing HIV

[MedicalXpress](#), [TomoNews](#), [Science Daily](#), [Asian News International](#), [Scicasts](#), [Deccan Chronicle](#), [New Indian Express](#), India's [The Week](#), and 24 other outlets 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.

Kids with diabetes can still enjoy Halloween

[HealthDay News](#) carried tips by Dr. Steven Mittelman, chief of pediatric endocrinology at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital, on ways that kids with diabetes can enjoy Halloween without harming their health. [U.S. News & World Report](#), [Fleekist.com](#), [Health on the Net Foundation](#), [Rocket News](#), and [Drugs.com](#) ran the article.

Breast cancer expert discusses prevention

A [Vogue.com](#) article on breast-cancer prevention screenings and risk-assessment tools featured expert Dr. Deanna Attai, a UCLA breast surgeon based in Burbank and assistant

clinical professor of surgery.

Mainstream, entertainment media cover brunch to benefit rape victims

[Los Angeles Times](#), [The Hollywood Reporter](#) and [Variety](#) covered the annual fundraising brunch hosted by NBC's "This is Us" cast to benefit the Rape Treatment Center and Stuart House at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. Gail Abarbanel, founding director of both programs, was quoted or referenced in the coverage.

Genetic test predicts longevity

[Reason.com](#) explored research by Steve Horvath, a professor of human genetics and biostatistics at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Fielding School of Public Health, and his development of a test to predict lifespan.

Rheumatoid arthritis increases the risk for osteoporosis

[Everyday Health](#) published an article, on the fact that many people with rheumatoid arthritis do not receive bone health screenings, that featured expert Dr. Veena Ranganath, associate clinical professor and rheumatologist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica.

Should kidney sales be legal?

[Gizmodo](#) published an article exploring the opinions of doctors, bioethicists and other experts on whether people should be allowed to sell their kidneys, featuring input from Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, medical director of the UCLA Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Program, and Dr. Jeffrey Veale, director of the UCLA Kidney Exchange Program. The article also highlighted research led by Veale that traced how the first three "voucher cases" led to 25 kidney transplants across the United States.

Explaining arthritis

A multipart [KTLA-TV](#) report from the California Science Center's "Body Worlds" exhibit linked to World Arthritis Day featured Dr. Elizabeth Volkmann, assistant professor of medicine in the division of rheumatology.

Measuring the safety of vaginal estrogens

[Science Newsline](#) and [MedicalXpress](#) highlighted research led by Dr. Carolyn Crandall finding that post-menopausal women who use a vaginal form of estrogen therapy do not have a higher risk of cardiovascular disease and cancer than women who use no estrogen. Crandall is professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research.

Media maintain their interest in research showing stem cells could fight baldness

[The Guardian Nigeria](#), [Nation Nigeria News](#), [Nigeria Today](#) and [The Substance Publication](#) reported on UCLA research that identified a new way to activate hair follicle stem cells to make hair grow. UCLA Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research members Heather Christofk, associate professor of biological chemistry and molecular and medical pharmacology, and Bill Lowry, a professor of molecular, cell and developmental biology, led the research.

Media interest in TMS therapy continues

WYTV-TV, Youngstown, Ohio, covered the UCLA transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) therapy, a treatment that beams magnetic pulses into the brain to combat depression. Dr. Andrew Leuchter, senior research scientist at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior and director of the neuromodulation division, commented.

WYTV-TV: <http://bit.ly/2hA3cBp>

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 urinary tract infections, featured in [The Courier of Montgomery County](#)
- On panic attacks, featured in [Sierra Sun](#)
- On sundowning syndrome, featured in [The Times-Tribune](#)
- On children’s hygiene, featured in [Tulsa World](#)
- On Candida auris, featured in [Hanford Sentinel](#)
- On marijuana and blood pressure, featured in [The Cumberland Times-News](#).

QUOTED

“I don’t expect this is going to be solved overnight. It could take a year or more.”

-Dr. Jonathan Fielding in [STAT News](#) on the hepatitis A outbreak in San Diego



[Pos](#)
[t](#)



[Twe](#)
[et](#)



[Pos](#)
[t](#)

Dr. Deanna Attai, a UCLA breast surgeon based in Burbank and assistant clinical professor of surgery, commented in an [Oprah magazine](#) article on why some women refuse reconstructive surgery after mastectomy. She also commented:

- In [Vogue](#), on breast-cancer screening options
- In [Nonpareilonline.com](#), on the importance of remaining vigilant in the face of breast.

Dr. Jonathan Fielding, professor-in-residence at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in a [STAT News](#) story about San Diego’s effort to control a hepatitis A outbreak. [PBS NewsHour](#) and [Scientific American](#) carried the article, and a [Route Fifty](#) story picked up his comments.

Dr. Patricia Ganz, distinguished professor of hematology and oncology at the David

Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in [Cancer Treatment](#) about a chemotherapy drug that increases the risk of neuropathy in early-stage breast cancer patients. Ganz is also director of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Patients and Survivors Program.

Beth Glenn, assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health in the department of health policy and management, was quoted in the [Huffington Post](#) about new findings that show black women have a lower chance of surviving breast cancer than white women. Glenn is also associate director of the UCLA Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Equity and the co-director of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Healthy and At-Risk Populations Program.

Emanuel Maidenberg, clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, commented in a [Washington Post](#) article about psychological scars in the aftermath of the Las Vegas shooting. The article also appeared in the [San Antonio Express-News](#), [MSN](#) and the [Bend Bulletin](#).

Dr. Kelsey Martin, dean of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented in a KPCC-FM story about California Gov. Jerry Brown's creation of the first state effort to support precision medicine projects. Martin was recently appointed to the Governor's Advisory Committee on Precision Medicine.
KPCC-FM: <http://bit.ly/2yj0NV1>

- [Healthcare Informatics](#) also reported on the dean's appointment to the committee.

Dr. Emeran Mayer, director of the G. Oppenheimer Center for Neurobiology of Stress and Resilience and co-director of the CURE: Digestive Diseases Research Center, commented in the [Wall Street Journal](#) about the gut-brain connection.

Dr. Mark Morocco, emergency room physician at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and clinical professor of emergency medicine, commented in a [Reuters](#) story about trauma care following the mass shooting in Las Vegas. The story was picked up in [U.S. News & World Report](#), [Yahoo News](#), [Daily Mail](#), [The Star \(Malaysia\)](#) and four other news outlets.

Dr. Michael Ong, associate professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, commented in a [Newsweek](#) article about a study suggesting that, if tobacco users switched substantially to vaping, it would save lives.

Sean Reed, researcher at the UCLA Exercise Physiology Laboratory, was quoted in a [MEL Magazine](#) article about why people may get better at things after one or two drinks.

Dr. Antoni Ribas, director of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Tumor Immunology Program, was quoted in [Life Extension](#), [Northwest Herald](#), [Cape Cod Times](#) about the work of an immunologist who co-developed an antibody that blocks a molecule from allowing the immune system to attack cancer. Ribas is also a professor of hematology and oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

Dr. Raman Sankar, chief of pediatric neurology, commented in a [Kaiser Health News](#) story about newborn screening for adrenoleukodystrophy, a genetic brain disorder that can be treated if detected early. The story ran in the [Scientific American](#), [KQED.org](#), the [Coeur D'Alene Press](#) and six other publications nationwide.

Stuart Schweitzer, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented in a [KPCC-FM](#) report on SB 17, a California law that requires drug manufacturers to justify price increases of more than 16 percent over two years.

Dr. Zaldy Tan, medical director of the UCLA Alzheimer's and Dementia Care Program, commented in a [Your Care Everywhere](#) article offering six tips on caring for someone with dementia.

Sean Young, associate professor of family medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and executive director of the University of California Institute for Prediction Technology, was quoted in a [Voice of San Diego](#) story on the failure of public health officials to share data on the location of hepatitis A outbreaks.

BRIEFS

A [New York Times Magazine](#) article, about why more American teens are suffering from severe anxiety, cited research from UCLA's Anxiety and Depression Research Center.

[Becker's Hospital Review](#) cited an op-ed published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology co-authored by Dr. Gregg Fonarow that assessed the potential threats to patient safety as a result of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Service's hospital readmission reduction program. Fonarow is the Eliot Corday Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center and co-chief of cardiology

A [Washington Post](#) article about how to help students write their college admission essay cited a 2015 study by the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities, which found a link between a parent's expectation that a child will attend college and his or her academic success.

[Modern Healthcare](#) referenced research on post-acute care led by Dr. Greg Sacks, a resident in general surgery, in a story about delivering health care at home.

UCLA Health's new Century City office was referenced in an [UncoverLA.com](#) article about the Westfield Century City mall and its tenants.

A [We Like L.A.](#) list of great places to volunteer in Los Angeles featured UCLA Health's animal-assisted therapy program, the People-Animal Connection.

[Non-Profit Quarterly](#) referenced the success of a UCLA population health program that has improved health outcomes and reduced costs by hiring community health workers to coordinate care.

[CheatSheet](#) referenced UCLA Health resources on kidney cancer in a story about cancers that can show no signs or symptoms.

An [LA Times](#) article referenced a cancer survivor and former employee of the Jonsson Cancer Center Foundation at UCLA who continues to enjoy life after being successfully treated for the disease three-times.

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, was voted “best hospital” in [The Argonaut’s](#) “Best of the Westside” health and fitness rankings for 2017.

KTLA-TV mentioned a donation UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center received from an event by STOP Cancer.

KTLA-TV: <http://bit.ly/2wRamHJ>



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.

UCLA's Health Sciences Media Relations office e-publishes this report weekly. For more information, please contact Tami Dennis, executive director of media relations, or call the Media Relations office at (310) 267-7022. Media Relations also offers publicity for new research, medical breakthroughs, inspirational patient stories and more. To identify the appropriate public information officer for your department, visit

<https://www.uclahealth.org/Newsroom/Pages/Media-Relations-Directory.aspx>.

