Los Angeles Times: Immunotherapy as treatment of choice for certain cancers

(Photo: UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center)
Immunotherapy is latest treatment of choice for certain cancers
A Los Angeles Times article about successfully using immunotherapy drugs to extend the lives of patients featured Dr. Antoni Ribas, professor in the department of hematology and oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Immunology Program.

What to do about hot flashes
A Washington Post article about hot flashes and what women can safely do about them featured Dr. Carolyn Crandall, professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research. The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Chicago Tribune and Philly.com carried the article.

UCLA cardiologist comments on new study about blood pressure
A CBS News report about a new study indicating that 30 percent of Americans have high blood pressure and half of them do not have it controlled featured Dr. Ravi Dave, director of interventional cardiology for UCLA Health. The segment aired locally on KTLA-TV and KCAL-TV and on more than 50 other CBS-affiliated television and radio stations nationwide.

Does reading in a car make you feel sick?
BuzzFeed featured Dr. Joanne Feldman, assistant clinical professor of emergency medicine, in a story about the causes of motion sickness, managing symptoms and why some people are more prone to the illness than others.

Media outlets feature program for wounded veterans
Stories about UCLA Health’s Operation Mend, a program that provides free surgical, medical and psychological services to wounded veterans, were featured in several outlets:

- **Calaveras Enterprise** profiled 71-year-old Ric Ryan, a Vietnam veteran, who has raised more than $110,000 to benefit the Operation Mend program.
- **KTNV-TV** interviewed Kira Lorsch, president of the Thalians, a nonprofit Hollywood industry group that raises money to support Operation Mend’s mental health programs.
- **KDFW-TV, WTVT-TV and WJBK-TV** aired a segment that originally aired on Fox 11’s *Good Day L.A*. The story included Operation Mend’s Buddy Family program, which pairs the veteran with a local volunteer while the patient is in Los Angeles getting treatment. Dr. Chris Crisera, associate professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery and co-director of Operation Mend, and Dr. Jo Somborger, director of psychological health programs, were interviewed.

**Low-cost health services and reducing unnecessary spending**

*HealthDay News, Medscape, the American Journal of Managed Care,* and *National Pharmaceutical Council* 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. *DoctorsLounge, Psychiatry Advisor* and *MPR* carried the *HealthDay* article.

**Expert comments on heart-related matters**

Several media outlets carried stories quoting Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center and co-chief of cardiology:

- A *Reuters* article on a study that found only 43 percent of adults follow guidelines from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force for prevention of heart attack and stroke. The *Reuters* story was syndicated in at least 25 media outlets including *Yahoo* and *Business Insider*.
- Fonarow commented in a *Medscape* article about the status of “do not resuscitate” orders in hospitalized heart failure patients.
- *The Hospitalist* reported on a UCLA study led by Fonarow that found rates of heart attack and ischemic stroke in heart failure patients with reduced ejection fraction were significantly higher than in patients with heart failure with preserved ejection fraction.

**Improving older African-American men’s health**

The *East Bay Express* published a guest editorial co-authored by Vickie Mays, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, about how sleep problems, stress and racism affect the health of African-American men over age 65.

**UCLA radiologist helps readers make sense of mammography guidelines**

*Santa Clarita Magazine* carried a column by Dr. Anne Hoyt, section chief and medical director of breast imaging for UCLA Health, about mammography guidelines.

**Measuring the safety of vaginal estrogens**

*MedPage Today* (login required) reported on research led by Dr. Carolyn Crandall about post-menopausal women and a vaginal form of estrogen therapy. Crandall, a professor of
A more eco-conscious way to die
McClatchy News reported on Gov. Jerry Brown’s signing of a bill into law that legalizes alkaline hydrolysis, often known as “water cremation,” as a more environmentally friendly way to dispose of human remains. Dean Fisher, director of the UCLA Donated Body Program, was interviewed. The story was syndicated by 27 newspapers, including the Sacramento Bee and Miami Herald.

TIME spotlights former UCLA eye surgeon
TIME magazine’s "FIRST" print and video series profiled Dr. Patricia Bath, a former professor of ophthalmology at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, in a national video and article about women who changed the world. She was the first female African-American doctor to invent and patent a medical device for cataract removal.

How federal subsidy rollbacks might affect Covered CA
A report on KPCC-FM’s “Air Talk” about President Trump’s executive order that rolls back health insurance protections featured 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.

Controlling HIV in China
Ecns.cn profiled Dr. Roger Detels, professor of epidemiology and infectious diseases at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study, and his work training health professionals from Asian countries to control the spread of AIDS.

Where to live if you're a vegan or vegetarian
A WalletHub article on 2017’s best cities for vegans and vegetarians featured a Q&A with Janet Leader, a lecturer in the department of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, on switching to a vegetarian or vegan diet.

Proper nutrition can help with jet lag
Conde Nast Traveler published a story about nutrition and jet lag featuring expert Dana Hunnes, senior dietitian at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and adjunct assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

Black tea and weight loss coverage continues
San Jose Mercury News, East Bay Times, ThirdAge.com and five 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.

More interest in brain research using miniscopes
BioTechniques featured Dr. Peyman Golshani, associate professor of neurology at UCLA, and his colleagues in a story about their work developing an open-access, miniaturized microscope for studying the brains of freely moving animals.

Lessons learned in a career treating people with Alzheimer’s
HuffPost featured Dr. Gary Small, director of geriatric psychiatry at UCLA’s Longevity Center, in an interview about his career and his insights regarding Alzheimer’s research and treatment.

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 treatment for thyroid cancer, featured in The Frederick News-Post
- On the recent hepatitis A outbreak, featured in Pinal Central
- On treadmill desks, featured in Indiana Gazette
- On lymphedema, featured in Hanford Sentinel
- On added sugar and nutrition labels, featured in Chicago Sun-Times.

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QUOTED

“Even small amounts in vampire terms, such as the amount of swallowed blood from a long nosebleed, can give a human diarrhea.”

-Dr. Thomas Ganz, in Science News, about how blood-sucking animals process fluid and protein from blood

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Dr. David Ahn, health sciences clinical professor and endocrinologist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, commented in an NPR story on new technologies that are making life easier for diabetics. The piece also ran on more than 100 NPR affiliate stations nationwide.

Lao-Tzu Allan-Blitz, a medical student at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, commented in a PM360 story about the use of ciprofloxacin to treat drug-resistant gonorrhea. He spoke at an annual scientific meeting on infectious diseases in San Diego.

Dr. Jennifer Beck, assistant clinical professor and sports medicine specialist at UCLA
Medical Center, Santa Monica, was quoted in a ClassPass.com blog post about eating after a workout.

**Dr. Vikas Chopra**, an associate clinical professor of ophthalmology at the Doheny Eye Institute UCLA, was highlighted by *Ophthalmology Times* in an article about a new tool to assess glaucoma progression by measuring blood-vessel damage in the retina and optical nerve head.

**Dr. Gabriel Danovitch**, medical director of the UCLA Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Program, was quoted in a *Los Angeles Times* article about Iran’s legal market for kidney sales. The *San Diego Union-Tribune*, *Miami Herald*, *Hartford Courant*, MSN.com, and *Gulf News Iran* carried the article.

**Dr. Jeremy Davis**, clinical instructor of dermatology, commented in a *Runner’s World* story on annual skin cancer exams. The story was syndicated on MSN.com.

**Dr. Sophie Deng**, was quoted in a *Reuters Health* story about keratoplasty for corneal endothelial dysfunction. The story was syndicated by M.D./alert.

**Dr. David Eisenman** was quoted in an azcentral.com article about a 14-year-old girl who died of heat exposure during a hike. 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.

**Dr. Tomas Ganz**, professor of pulmonology and critical care, commented in a *Science News* story about how blood-sucking animals process fluid and protein from blood.

**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, commented in a *STAT News* story about a new initiative to study concussion in professional fighters in an effort to predict the risk of future brain injury. The article was syndicated by *Scientific American* and MedPage Today.

**Dr. John Glaspy**, professor in the department of hematology and oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and vice chair of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Scientific Protocol Review Committee, was quoted in the *Los Angeles Times* about treating cancers as a manageable chronic disease.

**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 *Conde Nast Traveler* story about the health effects of pasta.

**Dr. Linda Liau**, chair of neurosurgery for the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in a story in *OncLive.com* about the latest advances in treating glioblastoma with immunotherapy.

**Mayank Mehta**, professor in the departments of physics and astronomy, neurology and neurobiology, was quoted in a *VOA News* story about how virtual reality can affect the brain. His team’s research was referenced in the story.

**Nadereh Pourat**, professor-in-residence at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and
director of research at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, commented in a KCBS-TV report about President Trump’s executive order approving purchase of insurance across state lines and why it undermines Obamacare. The KCBS report also aired on Bay News 9, St. Petersburg, Florida; WGME-TV, Portland, Maine; KLTV-TV, Tyler, Texas; WYZZ-TV, Peoria, Illinois; and KMPH-TV, Fresno, California.

- Pourat also commented in a Modern Healthcare article about undocumented parents’ fear of enrolling their United States-born children for insurance due to concern over deportation.

Dr. Veena Ranganath, associate clinical professor and rheumatologist at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, commented in an Everydayhealth.com article on why those with rheumatoid arthritis should monitor their bone density.

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 My Palm Beach Post, My Dayton Daily News, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution and My Statesman about the work of an immunologist who co-developed an antibody to help the immune system attack cancer.

Dylan Roby, faculty associate at the Fielding School’s UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, commented in a KPCC-FM report about how President Trump’s order to change some rules governing health insurance will affect California.

- Roby was also quoted in a separate KPCC-FM report about how the state’s healthcare marketplace may be mostly insulated from the president’s decision.

Dr. Karen Sibert, associate clinical professor of anesthesiology and perioperative medicine, was quoted in a U.S. News & World Report story on how education about opioids has changed at medical schools.

Dr. Anthony Wang, an associate professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in a Los Angeles Times story about Moyamoya disease. The story was syndicated by 36 newspapers nationwide, including the Miami Herald, Sacramento Bee and Kansas City Star.

BRIEFS

Dr. Dennis Slamon, professor, chief and executive vice chair for research in the department of hematology and oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Clinical and Translational Research, was referenced in the Fort Wayne Business Weekly as the keynote speaker of
a breast cancer research forum.

**Anne Coscarelli**, adjunct professor in the department of hematology and oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, founding director of Simms/Mann-UCLA Center for Integrative Oncology and a member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was referenced in *Life News* about physician-assisted suicide.

The *Ventura County Star* cited 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, in an article about research finding that people in the Ventura County area pay more for health care.

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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