

UCLA

Health

UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT Week of Oct. 20 - 26, 2017

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KPCC: UCLA Health launches pioneering mobile stroke unit

(Photo: UCLA Health)



UCLA Health launches pioneering mobile stroke unit

KPCC-FM, KNX-AM, [Santa Monica Mirror](#), [Patch](#), WKRC-TV, Cincinnati, Ohio, and 124 local TV stations via the nationally syndicated news program [AgDay](#) covered UCLA Health's launch of the first mobile stroke unit on the West Coast, which will enable the rapid delivery of brain-saving medications to stroke patients in Los Angeles County. Johnese Spisso, president of UCLA Health and CEO of the UCLA Hospital System; Dr. May Nour, medical director of the UCLA Arline and Henry Gluck Stroke Rescue Program; and Dr. Jeffrey Saver, director of the UCLA Comprehensive Stroke Center, commented in the news.

Mentoring to foster diversity in biomedicine

A [Science](#) magazine article about the National Institutes of Health's \$250 million diversity initiative highlighted UCLA's role in the multi-institution initiative to boost the diversity of the nation's biomedical workforce. The UCLA-based NIH Diversity Program Consortium Coordination and Evaluation Center provides operations and data coordination and support for two programs within the consortium: Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity, or BUILD, and the National Research Mentoring Network. The article featured Dr. Keith Norris, professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research and the center's co-leader. It also quoted Crystal Lee, a postdoctoral student in neuroscience and psychiatry.

Which lung cancer surgery is right for you?

An [Everyday Health](#) article on lung cancer surgery featured Dr. Jay M. Lee, chief of the division of thoracic surgery at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica.

Seeing better could extend your lifespan

[HealthDay News](#) reported on research linking cataract surgery in elderly women to a longer life. Dr. Anne Coleman, the Fran and Ray Stark Professor of Ophthalmology at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute and a professor of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, led the study, which was published in *JAMA Ophthalmology*. The article also appeared in [U.S. News & World Report](#), [Health.com](#), the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), [Healing Well](#), [Drugs.com](#) and [EHEandME](#).

Pollution is the world's biggest killer

A BBC World News report on a new study finding that pollution is the world's biggest killer, having caused 9 million premature deaths in 2015, featured Michael Jerrett, professor and chair of the department of environmental health sciences and director of the Center for Occupational and Environmental Health at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. BBC-TV: <http://bit.ly/2gVQZrh>

Genetic tests for breast and ovarian cancers are underused

Two reports in the U.K.'s [Daily Mail](#) – one on the “Angelina Jolie Effect” and one on a lawsuit involving talcum powder – featured a related article about UCLA research finding that many women at risk of breast or ovarian cancer don't get a genetic test that could detect it. Lead author Dr. Christopher Childers, resident physician in the UCLA Department of Surgery, was quoted. The article was also syndicated in [LatestNewsNetwork](#), [Express Digest](#), and [Celebrity Rave](#). The UCLA research was additionally referenced in an [Inquisitr](#) article about the Jolie effect.

Doctors test experimental drug for stroke of the eye

Ivanhoe Medical News distributed a story about research on the first drug to treat stroke of the eye, which affects 6,000 Americans per year and can lead to blindness. Dr. Peter Quiros, an associate professor of ophthalmology at the UCLA Doheny Eye Center, was interviewed. The story aired on five broadcast affiliates, including [KXAS-TV](#), Dallas, Texas.

Media interest in TMS therapy continues

KIMT-TV, Rochester, Minneapolis, covered UCLA's use of 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 and director of the neuromodulation division, commented.

Rheumatoid arthritis and hip pain treatments that work

An [Everyday Health](#) article about hip pain treatments for rheumatoid arthritis featured Dr. Veena K. Ranganath, associate clinical professor of medicine in the division of rheumatology.

MedPage Today profiles cancer expert

[MedPage Today](#) profiled Dr. Patricia Ganz, distinguished professor of hematology and oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, who discussed her education and career, what drew her toward cancer care and research, and her interest in quality-of-life and survivorship issues. Ganz, who was recently named editor-in-chief of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, is also director of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center's Patients and Survivors Program and is a distinguished professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

Pediatric cardiologist spearheads medical missions

[Pulmonary Hypertension News](#) featured a podcast with Dr. Juan Alejos in which he

discussed his nonprofit organization, Hearts with Hope, which provides medical missions in Peru and other South American countries. Alejos is the medical director of the pediatric heart transplant/cardiomyopathy program at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital.

Low-cost health services and reducing unnecessary spending

[Healthline](#) 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. *Health Affairs* published the study.

Media interest in new brain organoids continues

[Biotech Week](#) and [M3 India](#) 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. Bennett Novitch, the Ethel Scheibel Chair of Neuroscience and professor of neurobiology, led the research. Novitch is also a member of the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at UCLA.

Zaps to the brain boost patients' memory

[Science Daily](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [Science Codex](#) and [News-Medical Net](#) covered research linking memory improvements and the electrical stimulation of a key part of the brain. Dr. Itzhak Fried, professor of neurosurgery, and Nanthia Suthana, assistant professor of neurosurgery and psychiatry, co-led the study, which was published in the journal *eLife*.

Nanodiamonds may improve recovery after a root canal

[Dentistry Today](#), [ScienceDaily](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [MyScience.org](#) and [News-Medical.Net](#) covered research from the UCLA School of Dentistry finding that the use of nanodiamonds improved the likelihood of a full recovery for those who underwent root canals in a clinical trial. Co-corresponding authors Dean Ho, professor of oral biology and medicine at the UCLA School of Dentistry, and Dr. Mo Kang, UCLA Dentistry's Jack Weichman Professor of Endodontics, were quoted.

The effects of fluoride in the water

[Mic.com](#) published a story on misconceptions about the effects of fluoride in drinking water featuring expert Dr. Edmond Hewlett, professor of restorative dentistry and associate dean for outreach and diversity at the UCLA School of Dentistry.

Many patients find breast cancer radiation isn't so scary

[Cancer Network](#) published a video and story 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, was featured.

Black tea and weight loss coverage continues

[Asia One](#) published a story 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.

End of immigrant program jeopardizes medical students

[Associated Press](#) featured third-year medical student Marcela Zhou in a story about the

impact of the Trump Administration's decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. The program allows Zhou and others brought to the U.S. as children to legally live, work and study in the country. The story was syndicated to more than 60 news outlets, including [San Francisco Chronicle](#), [Houston Chronicle](#), [Voice of America News](#), [Breitbart](#), [Yahoo Finance](#) and others.

Osteoporosis after menopause

A [Health Professional Radio](#) segment on osteoporosis after menopause featured Dr. Susan Bukata, associate clinical professor and orthopaedic surgeon at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica.

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 sandboxes and bacteria, featured in [The Spokesman-Review](#)
- On risks of taking NSAIDs, featured in [Hanford Sentinel](#)
- On migraine prevention, featured in [Sierra Sun](#)
- On unexplained weight loss, featured in [The Cumberland Times-News](#)
- On drinking prep solution ahead of a colonoscopy, featured in [UExpress](#)
- On statins, featured in [Herald Standard](#).

QUOTED

"Some of these kids will have lost everything, and their parents and families will have additional adversities."

-**Melissa Brymer**, director of terrorism and disaster programs at the UCLA-Duke National Center for Child Traumatic Stress, in [The 74](#).



Dr. Alon Avidan, director of UCLA's Sleep Disorders Center, commented in a [World Nomads](#) article about ways to beat jet lag.

Melissa Brymer, director of terrorism and disaster programs at the UCLA-Duke National Center for Child Traumatic Stress, commented in [The 74](#) about the post-wildfire return of teachers and students in northern California schools, and coping with trauma.

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 on [CNN.com](#) – in a story originally featured by [Kaiser Health News](#) – about crisis care for adolescents and young adults with severe autism.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, director of the Ahmanson–UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center and co-chief of cardiology, was quoted in a [HealthDay](#) article about a study finding that white men who exercise more than seven hours a week have an 86 percent higher risk of developing plaque build-up in their arteries. [U.S. News & World Report](#), [WebMD](#) and [UPI](#) syndicated the HealthDay story.

Marlene Gómez, project manager of the UCLA-Smokefree Air for Everyone (SAFE) project at the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted Oct. 23 in a [La Opinión](#) story about the hazards of secondhand smoke in housing. The article also cited the UCLA-SAFE study.

Dr. Edmond Hewlett, professor of restorative dentistry and associate dean for outreach and diversity at the UCLA School of Dentistry, was quoted in an [MSN.com](#) story about the risks of drinking diet soda.

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 [MEL Magazine](#) story on the differences between calories from liquids and from solid foods.

Dr. Shafali Jeste, associate professor of psychiatry and neurology at UCLA, commented in a [Spectrum News](#) story about a possible marker in babies for language delay, a common feature in autism.

Kathryn Kietzman, research scientist at the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted in a [California Health Report](#) story about the confusion of low-income disabled and elderly people concerning the state's new managed health care program.

Dr. Jeffrey Klausner commented in an article in [The Lancet Gastroenterology & Hepatology](#) (login required) about the hepatitis A outbreak in California and other states that has substantially increased demand for the vaccine. 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.

Dr. Angela Leung, assistant clinical professor of medicine in the division of endocrinology, diabetes & metabolism, commented in a [Medscape](#) article about a study finding that adding an immunosuppressant called a mycophenolate to the recommended therapy of glucocorticoids can significantly improve the inflammation of the eye orbit associated with Graves' disease.

- She also commented in a [Woman's Day](#) article about 11 things women need to know about their thyroid.

Dr. Karen Sibert, associate clinical professor of anesthesiology and perioperative medicine, commented in a [U.S. News & World Report](#) story about how medical schools are addressing education as a result of the opioid crisis. Her comments in the U.S. News & World Report story were also used in a [National Pain Report](#) article.

- Sibert also was quoted in a [Physician's Practice](#) story (page 2) about solutions to physician shortages.

Dr. Gary Small, director of geriatric psychiatry at UCLA's Longevity Center, commented in a story in [Scouting Magazine](#) about ways to maintain a healthy brain.

BRIEFS

[NPR](#) featured a story on Gabrielle Union, an actor and advocate for rape survivors, during which she credited the Rape Treatment Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, with saving her life. The story aired on more than 100 NPR-affiliated stations across the country.

[KXO-FM](#) noted that the California Health Interview Survey, conducted by the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, is partnering with the Imperial County Public Health Department to collect information from local residents on key health conditions to help the county better target health services.

A [CALmatters](#) column about a debate among four declared Democratic candidates for governor cited research from the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research finding that health care is now a \$367 billion per year California industry. The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) and [Fresno Bee](#) carried the column.

- Separate articles in the [Los Angeles Times](#) and in the [San Francisco Chronicle](#) also cited the research.

[Healthcare Finance News](#) referenced UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital's new logo and recent gift from Mattel, Inc. in a story about the rebranding of Miami Children's Health System.

[PM360](#) referenced UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital and Siem Ia, nurse practitioner in the department of pediatrics, in a story about pediatric health care home models.

The U.K.'s [Daily Mail](#) referenced a UCLA study finding that e-cigarettes harm cardiovascular health.

[Ozy.com](#) referenced Dr. Medell Briggs-Malonson, assistant clinical professor and director of quality for emergency medicine quality, in a story about the use of ambulance versus Uber as transportation to a hospital emergency room.



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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