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.

Reuters: Schools influence student drug use
(Photo: Wesley Gibbs on Unsplash)
**LA Business Journal:** $25M gift will advance Parkinson’s research at UCLA
(Photo: Wikimedia Commons)

**Reuters:** Heart patients should consider cardiac rehab
(Photo: Wikimedia Commons)

---

**FEATURED**

**Students at high-performing high schools less likely to abuse marijuana**
Research finding that teens who attend high-performing high schools are less likely to abuse marijuana was reported by Reuters, HealthDay News, MedicalXpress and KNX-AM, Los Angeles. The Reuters story was syndicated by seven other outlets, including the Deccan Chronicle and the Asian Age, and the HealthDay report was syndicated by four other outlets, including Drugs.com and Doctors Lounge. Published by JAMA Pediatrics, the study was led by Dr. Rebecca Dudovitz, an assistant professor of pediatrics at UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital, and Dr. Mitchell Wong, a professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dudovitz was quoted.

**$25 million gift will advance Parkinson’s research at UCLA**
Los Angeles Business Journal, Patch, MyNewsLA and LA West Media reported that a $25 million gift from the Steven Gordon Family Foundation will create the UCLA Laurie and Steven Gordon Commitment to Cure Parkinson’s Disease at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Kelsey Martin, dean of the Geffen School, and Dr. John Mazziotta, vice chancellor of UCLA Health Sciences and CEO of UCLA Health, were quoted in some of the stories. Dr. Carlos Portera-Cailliau, the Steven C. Gordon Family Chair in Parkinson’s Disease Research, was referenced in certain stories.

**Heart patients should consider cardiac rehab**
Reuters covered a patient resource guide authored by two UCLA cardiologists and published in JAMA Cardiology. The guide recommends that patients who have had a heart attack, stent placement or bypass surgery enroll in a cardiac rehabilitation program. Co-
author Dr. Tamara Horwich, an associate professor of medicine in the division of cardiology, was quoted. Co-author Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and co-chief of cardiology, was cited. The story was syndicated in a dozen outlets including Physician’s Weekly, WSAU.com (Wausau, Wisconsin) and Gulf Times (Qatar).

**BBC, NPR cover transformative brain surgery**
Dr. Nader Pouratian, an associate professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was featured in the BBC’s “Crowd Science” program about his role in surgically implanting a brain prosthesis designed to stimulate the visual cortex and restore some visual perception to blind people. National Public Radio also broadcast the segment, which aired locally in 13 markets.

**Babies born to HIV-positive mothers at higher risk of CMV**
HealthDay News highlighted research led by Dr. Kristina Adachi suggesting that infants born to HIV-positive mothers had high rates of congenital cytomegalovirus, or CMV, and that infants who also were infected before birth by the virus that causes AIDS were especially prone to CMV infection. Adachi is a clinical instructor in the division of infectious diseases in the department of pediatrics. Doctors Lounge, Infectious Disease Advisor, and Clinical Advisor carried the HealthDay story.

**Volunteers at Care Harbor help treat patients at free health clinic**
myScience spotlighted the efforts of nearly 200 UCLA volunteers to treat the underinsured and underserved at the annual Care Harbor free health clinic held Oct. 13-15 in downtown Los Angeles.

**Brushing your teeth will benefit your health**
An Eat This, Not That! article on 65 ways to live longer featured Dr. Edmond Hewlett, professor of restorative dentistry and associate dean for outreach and diversity at the UCLA School of Dentistry, who provided oral health tips.

**There’s now a blood test for menopause**
KCBS Radio reported on a new test approved by the Food and Drug Administration to help women know if they’re entering menopause. Dr. Molly Quinn, an assistant clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was interviewed.

**Heart surgery readmissions similar despite day of discharge**
MedPage Today reported on new UCLA research findings that readmission rates of heart surgery patients were similar whether they were discharged during the work week or over the weekend or holidays. The study’s first author, Dr. Yas Sanaiha, a general surgery resident in the division of cardiac surgery, was quoted.

**Insured LGB Californians more likely to delay health care**
Jefferson Public Radio and Georgia Voice reported on a study finding that lesbian, gay and bisexual people in California delay needed medical care. Study co-author Dr. Allison Diamant, faculty associate at the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and associate professor of medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in the Jefferson Public Radio story, in which she also discussed the California Health Interview Survey, which is conducted by the Center.

**Health disparities narrowed under Affordable Care Act**
The Sierra Sun Times and the Insure the Insured Project blog covered the release of the 2017 California Health Interview Survey and a related policy brief by the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. The survey found that 8.5 percent of Californians under age 65 did not have health insurance in 2017, down from 15.5 percent in 2013, before the full expansion of the Affordable Care Act.

**Getting the facts about genomic testing and breast cancer**

Health.com featured Dr. Maggie DiNome, associate professor of surgery and member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, in an article about genomic tests available to analyze breast cancer tumors. The article also ran on MSN.com.

**More coverage of study showing less radiation still effective for prostate cancer**

HealthDay News, Doctors Lounge, Drugs.com, Renal and Urology News and MPR reported on a new study that found stereotactic body radiation therapy is a safe and effective treatment for men with low- and intermediate-risk prostate cancer. Dr. Amar Kishan, assistant professor of radiation oncology and a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, presented the research at the annual American Society of Radiation Oncology meeting.

**Delivering drugs directly to cancer cells ‘hiding’ in bone marrow**

Myscience.org, ReachMD.com, News Medical and MedicalXpress reported on a study that highlighted a new therapy — based on two types of cells joined into a single unit — developed by UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center researchers that could help strengthen existing treatments for acute myeloid leukemia. Zhen Gu, also a professor of bioengineering at the UCLA Samueli School of Engineering, led the study.

**When your eyes beg you to see a doctor**

Dr. Carolyn Duong, an optometrist at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, advised readers in a SELF story about eight symptoms that suggest you are overdue for an eye exam.

**Kids with mild head injuries don’t always require brain scans**

A Forbes column about doctors advising children with mild head injuries to undergo too many brain scans featured Dr. Christopher Giza, director of the UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program. Dr. Nina Shapiro, a professor of pediatric head and neck surgery at UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital, wrote the article.

**Repairing damage from eye-color change surgery**

An EyeWorld story told the story of a man who suffered serious vision complications after undergoing surgery overseas for an artificial iris to change his eye color. Dr. Kevin Miller, who helped treat the man to repair the earlier damage, is the Kolokotrones Chair in Ophthalmology at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute and David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

**UCLA Health partners with L.A. Care**

Los Angeles Business Journal and State of Reform reported that a new relationship will allow L.A. Care’s Medi-Cal members to receive care at UCLA Health locations. Inglewood Today posted a short report about the news.

**Foods that can impair sleep**

PopSugar interviewed Dr. Alon Avidan, a professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Center, for a story about foods to avoid in order to improve sleep.
Telemedicine can help transform surgical experience
A Becker’s ASC Review story reported about how UCLA Health is using telemedicine in the period around a patient’s surgery, or the perioperative period. The story referenced Dr. Nirav Kamdar, clinical instructor in the department of anesthesiology, who spoke at the Anesthesiology 2018 meeting in San Francisco last month.

Cautionary advice about insensitive Halloween costumes
Psychology Today published a column by Dr. Joseph Pierre, a clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, about why some Halloween costumes can be insensitive to people with mental health issues. Bustle quoted his piece.

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 vitamin B and lung cancer risk.
- On recent reader feedback.
- On personality traits and aging.

QUOTED

“You can break your face, break your nose, break your facial bones, break your skull and bleed inside your skull.”

- Dr. Wally Ghurabi, explaining the health dangers of electric scooters, to Bloomberg News

Dr. Alon Avidan, a professor of neurology and director of the UCLA Sleep Disorders Center, was quoted in a Quartz story about sleep paralysis. His comments were picked up by The Week UK, and the Quartz story was syndicated by MSN.
Judith Carroll, an assistant professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, was quoted in an NBC News story about the health benefits of hugging, which also referenced a study Carroll led on parental affection as an indicator of a child’s future health. MSN picked up the story.

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 quoted in a Reuters Health story about a study suggesting erenumab is effective for treatment-resistant episodic migraines.

Dr. Jeff Chen, director of the UCLA Cannabis Research Initiative, was quoted in a TIME story about a documentary on medical marijuana called Weed the People. A Civilized.life story interviewing the director of the documentary cited information about cannabis research at UCLA.

Dr. Jonathan Fielding, distinguished professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and a distinguished professor of pediatrics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in a San Diego Union-Tribune article about San Diego’s hepatitis A outbreak. The article also ran in the Los Angeles Times and was summarized by The Associated Press. More than 200 media outlets picked up the AP story.

Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science and co-chief of cardiology, was quoted in a Medscape article about a study finding that a healthy lifestyle is associated with a lower risk of stroke regardless of genetic risk factors.

Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, commented in a Bloomberg News story and accompanying podcast about the unintended consequences of electric scooters. SFGate, San Antonio Express-News, Tulsa World and nearly 50 other outlets nationwide carried the article.

Dr. Barbara Giesser, a professor of clinical neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and clinical director of the UCLA Multiple Sclerosis Program, was quoted in a Healthline story about a national database to improve multiple sclerosis and Parkinson’s research.

Richard Jackson, professor emeritus of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted in Public Square: A CNU Journal. The article focused on the importance of designing walkable communities that support older residents.

Dr. Jenny Kim, a professor of dermatology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of cosmetic dermatology, was quoted in a Los Angeles Times story about the use of ‘superfoods’ in skincare products.

Gerald Kominski, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and a senior fellow at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the Fielding School, was quoted in a Sacramento Bee article about how a California nurses’ union is supporting a single-payer healthcare system in the U.S.

Dr. Mark Morocco, an emergency room physician at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical
Center and a clinical professor of emergency medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted in a Well+Good story about how severe gas can lead to an ER visit.

**Dr. Leena Nathan**, an assistant clinical professor and obstetrician-gynecologist at UCLA Health-Westlake Village, was quoted in Reuters about a study that found women who become pregnant shortly after the birth of another child may face higher health risks for themselves and the new baby.

**Dr. Neil Silverman**, a clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was quoted in a NPR Shots story about risks associated with an experimental procedure known as "vaginal seeding," designed to help newborn babies develop healthy microbiomes.

**Dr. Gary Small**, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, was quoted in an Inc.com story about habits that can improve quality of life.

**Dr. Elizabeth Volkmann**, assistant professor of medicine in the division of rheumatology, was quoted in a MedPage Today article about other treatment options when prior therapies for rheumatoid arthritis fail.

**Diana Winston**, director of UCLA’s Mindful Awareness Research Center, was quoted in an Everyday Health story about how mindfulness may help people with multiple sclerosis.

---

**BRIEFS**

A Center for Health Journalism blog post about a series of stories highlighting the doctor shortage in Southern California’s Inland Empire cited the UCLA International Medical Graduate Program.

UCLA Operation Mend, which provides medical services for wounded service members and veterans, was cited in a Philanthropy.com brief about a $20.1 million grant from Wounded Warrior Project to expand the program’s intensive treatment program for post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury. California Healthline also mentioned the funding.

UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital was cited in an MSN.com story about a therapy dog named Pierre, part of the hospital’s People-Animal Connection program, that was a runner up in a Dog of the Year contest.
UCLA Newsroom:
UCLA cancer treatment gave this woman more than just hope

(Photo: Milo Mitchell)
9 in 10 Californians have health insurance, but federal policy changes signal turbulence ahead UCLA Newsroom

$25 million gift will advance Parkinson’s research at UCLA UCLA Newsroom

Behavioral risk factors for depression vary with age, UCLA study finds UCLA Newsroom

Can attending a higher-performing high school reduce teens’ marijuana abuse? UCLA Newsroom

As part of newly-funded consortium, UCLA Health fast-tracks technologies to improve pediatric health UCLA Health Newsroom

Ronald S. Brookmeyer named interim dean of UCLA Fielding School of Public Health UCLA Newsroom

Dentistry faculty receives award for leadership and community outreach achievements UCLA Newsroom

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.
UCLA's Health Sciences Media Relations office e-publishes this report weekly. For more information, please contact the Media Relations office at (310) 267-7022 or uclahealthnews@mednet.ucla.edu. 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/media-contacts.