

**UCLA**

**Health**

**UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT**  
**Week of Nov. 10-16, 2017**

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**Bloomberg:** Federal policy linked to increased mortality

(Photo: Tetra Images / Alamy)





### Reuters Health: Patients' involvement in medical notes may aid care

(Photo: Flickr / Thierry Falise)



### Wall Street Journal: When the mind is obsessed with physical flaws

(Photo: Flickr / Allen Skyy)



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#### **Federal policy to reduce re-hospitalizations linked to increased mortality**

[Bloomberg](#), [Reuters](#), [The Wall Street Journal](#), [FierceHealthcare](#), [HealthLeaders Media](#), [MedPage Today](#), [Modern Healthcare](#), [Cardiovascular Business](#), [HealthDay](#), [MD Magazine](#) and others reported on a new JAMA Cardiology study which found that a hospital readmissions reduction program was linked to increased risk of death among heart failure patients. The study's senior author, Dr. Gregg Fonarow, the Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and co-chief of cardiology, was quoted.

#### **Patients' involvement in medical notes could aid care**

[Reuters Health](#), [HealthDay News](#), [Modern Healthcare](#) and [Medscape](#) reported on research led by Dr. John Mafi finding that patients could benefit if they are invited to co-produce medical notes, called "OurNotes," with their doctors. Mafi, an assistant professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, was quoted in the coverage. [MPR](#) carried the HealthDay story.

#### **Obsession with physical flaws often a problem of the mind, not the body**

The [Wall Street Journal](#) featured Dr. Jamie Feusner, a professor-in-residence in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences and Director of the Eating Disorders and Body Dysmorphic Disorder Research Program, in an article about treatments for body dysmorphic disorder and current research.

#### **Codeine isn't safe for kids, but some doctors continue to prescribe it**

[Forbes](#) published a story about the dangers of codeine for kids and the need for doctors to stop prescribing it, featuring Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric otolaryngology at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital and a professor of head and neck surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

#### **Program that heals the wounds of war garners coverage**

The UCLA Health Operation Mend program, which provides medical and psychological services for wounded veterans, was featured in the following outlets:

- [The Mail Tribune](#), [KTVL-TV](#), [KDRV-TV](#) and [KEZI-TV](#) in stories on a patient from Medford, Oregon, who walked in the New York City Veterans Day parade with the Operation Mend program.  
KDRV-TV (part 1): <http://bit.ly/2mxy779>  
KDRV-TV (part 2): <http://bit.ly/2z8X12A>  
KTVL-TV: <http://bit.ly/2j2ytxl>  
KEZI-TV: <http://bit.ly/2iZl8VH>  
TODAY Show: <http://bit.ly/2hwK5Z7>
- [Spectrum-TV's In Focus](#) show in an interview with an Operation Mend patient and with Dana Katz, the volunteer director of community engagement and buddy programs.
- [Stars and Stripes](#) in a report on Operation Mend's acceptance of \$40,000 from VetsAid, a benefit concert organized by Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee Joe Walsh.

#### **Pistachios may be a boon to pregnant women with gestational diabetes**

The [Los Angeles Times](#), [Baltimore Sun](#), [San Antonio Express-News](#), [San Francisco Chronicle](#), and more than 380 other news publications covered a study finding that eating pistachios may help manage blood sugar levels for pregnant women with impaired glucose intolerance during gestation or gestational diabetes. Dr. Zhaoping Li, director at the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, was an author of the study and is quoted in the reports.

#### **How sleep deprivation disrupts the brain, leading to memory lapses**

[Yahoo! News](#), [IFL Science](#), [MSN](#), [NaturalNews.com](#) and more than 40 other news outlets reported on a UCLA study that is the first to reveal how sleep deprivation disrupts brain cells' ability to communicate with each other. The scientists believe the disruption leads to mental lapses that affect memory and visual perception. Led by Dr. Itzhak Fried, a professor of neurosurgery, the research was published by Nature Medicine.

#### **Telemonitoring of heart failure patients does not reduce hospital readmissions**

The [Wall Street Journal](#) highlighted 2016 research led by Dr. Michael Ong, associate professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, finding that combined health coaching and remote monitoring did not reduce all-cause 180-day hospital readmissions among heart failure patients, nor have significant effects on 30-day hospital readmissions or 30-day and 180-day mortality.

#### **Eliminating the ACA's mandate**

A [KPBS.org](#) broadcast about the Senate Republicans' aim to eliminate the Affordable Care Act's health mandate by including it into their tax proposal 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.

#### **Physical activity can cut risk of glaucoma**

KPRC-TV, Houston; WDBD-TV, Jackson, Mississippi; [HealthDay](#); the [Daily Mail](#); the [Guardian Nigeria](#); and [Medical Xpress](#) featured UCLA research showing that exercise may significantly lower the risk of glaucoma. Study author Dr. Victoria Tseng of UCLA's Department of Ophthalmology commented. The HealthDay story ran in more than 20 publications, including [WebMD](#) and [Philly.com](#).

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WDBD-TV: <http://bit.ly/2j0h0Wv>

KPRC-TV: <http://bit.ly/2A5qRW1>

### **HIV-positive people less likely to get appropriate cardiovascular care**

[Cardiovascular Business](#) reported on research led by Dr. Joseph Ladapo finding that HIV-positive people at risk of heart disease and stroke are less likely than HIV-negative people to receive statins and aspirin therapy. Ladapo is an associate professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research.

### **Combo therapy for pancreatic cancer shows promise**

[OncLive](#) featured a study led by Dr. Zev Wainberg, associate professor of hematology and oncology and UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center member, about a combination therapy against metastatic pancreatic cancer that showed positive results in a phase 1 clinical trial.

### **UCLA “miniscope” shows how epileptic seizures disrupt memory**

[Spectrum](#), in a story about how memories of location are disrupted by epileptic seizures, featured research using a miniature microscope conducted in the lab of Dr. Peyman Golshani, an associate professor of neurology at UCLA.

### **Language patterns reveal body's hidden response to stress**

[Daily Mail](#) and [Thrive Global](#) featured research led by Steve Cole, director of the UCLA Social Genomics Core Laboratory, about how subtleties in the language people use reveals physiological stress better than an individual's self-report of stress.

### **Drug inhibitors poised to impact treatment of breast cancer**

[OncLive](#) published a story on significant advances in the use of drug inhibitors to treat hormone receptor (HR)-positive breast cancer, which featured Dr. Richard Finn, associate professor of medicine and a UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center member.

### **Heart's pumping function is not an indicator of heart failure survival rates**

The [New England Journal of Medicine's Journal Watch](#), [Medical Research.com](#), [ANI](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [ScienceCodex](#) and [HealthCanal](#) reported on a study published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology which found that a measure of the heart's pumping function known as “left ventricular ejection fraction” is not associated with the long-term outcomes of hospitalized heart failure patients.

### **Immunotherapy as “salvage” treatment for lung cancer**

[OncLive](#) reported on how PD-1 immunotherapy can be used as a potential third-line, or “salvage” therapy, for advanced lung cancer. Dr. Edward Garon, associate professor of hematology and oncology and UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center member, commented.

### **Mobile stroke units drive local broadcast coverage**

[WFMZ-TV](#) and [WPMT-TV](#), Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 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. 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.

### **Nurse adds artistic touch to hospital stays, healing in Santa Monica**

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The [Santa Monica Mirror](#) featured registered nurse Heather Dodge's "Healing through Art" program, which helps patients at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, deal with the monotony of hospital stays and stress.

### **Handshake-free zones target the spread of germs in hospitals**

[Radio Health Journal](#) reported on UCLA's initiative to establish handshake-free zones in the Neonatal ICUs at UCLA Health hospitals in Westwood and Santa Monica. Dr. Mark Sklansky, professor and chief of pediatric cardiology, was featured in the segment, which aired on more than 300 radio stations nationwide.

### **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 alleviating dry eyes, featured in [The Berkshire Eagle](#)
- On mumps outbreaks, featured in [The Spokesman-Review](#)
- On changing dietary guidelines, featured in [The Frederick News-Post](#)
- On losing excess weight in the chest and stomach, featured in [Tulsa World](#)
- On the spread of MRSA, featured in [The Times-Tribune](#).

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## QUOTED

*"Right now, people perceive the individual mandate as a significant penalty that draws them into Covered California, and if they heard that it went away completely, then they would just sit it out and wouldn't even bother shopping for insurance."*

-Dylan Roby on [KPCC-FM](#)



**Dr. Saba Al-Hashimi**, health sciences assistant clinical professor at the Jules Stein Eye Institute, was quoted in a [Reuters Health](#) story on the use of Botox for migraine pain, photophobia, and dry eye symptoms.

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**Dr. Ravi Dave**, director of interventional cardiology for UCLA Health, commented in a [CBS Newspath](#) segment on new guidelines for the diagnosis of high-blood pressure. The segment, which also featured a UCLA patient, aired on more than a dozen CBS-affiliated television and radio station nationally.

**Dr. David Eisenman**, 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, commented in an [Arizona Republic](#) article about the record number of heat-related deaths in Maricopa County in 2016.

**Dr. Gregg Fonarow**, the Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and co-chief of cardiology, was quoted in the following media outlets:

- [HealthDay](#), on new research about the financial impact that a life-threatening heart emergency can have on people without health insurance. The HealthDay story was syndicated in 80 outlets, including [Phill.com](#) and [UPI](#).
- [MedPage](#), on a study that looked at efforts to adopt better practices for acute heart attack care in India.
- [MedPage Today](#), on a study about the use of a heart shunt to ease pressure in heart failure patients.
- [TCTMD](#), [The Hospitalist](#) and [MedPage Today](#), on a study finding that the implementation of regionalized treatment protocols to diagnose and treat acute heart attack led to significant declines in treatment times.

**Dr. Daniel Geschwind**, a distinguished professor of neurology, psychiatry and human genetics and director of the UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment, commented in an article in [Spectrum](#) about how insomnia should be factored into autism studies.

**Dr. Jeffrey Klausner** was quoted in a [Vox](#) article about social dating apps and sexually transmitted disease prevention. The article also cites [research](#) that Klausner co-authored finding that the gay-oriented social networking app Grindr is an effective channel through which to distribute HIV self-testing information. 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. The [Washington Post](#) featured some of Klausner's comments in a summary of the Vox report.

**Gerald Kominski** was quoted in a [Sacramento Bee](#) article about how Covered California spends five times as much as the Trump administration advertising open enrollment under the Affordable Care Act. Kominski is a 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.

- He also commented in a [WikiTribune](#) story about the cutting of subsidies to help low-income Americans pay insurance premiums for plans bought on government health exchanges.

**Dr. Leena Nathan**, assistant clinical professor and obstetrician-gynecologist at UCLA Health-Westlake Village, commented in a [Cosmopolitan.com](#) article about giving babies

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formula when the mother is unable to feed the baby with breast milk. The article was syndicated by [Yahoo! Lifestyle](#) and [Country Living](#).

**Dr. Tina Nguyen**, assistant professor of maternal-fetal medicine in obstetrics and gynecology, commented in [Medscape](#) about the use of ADHD drugs during pregnancy.

**Dylan Roby**, faculty associate at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health's Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted in a [KPCC-FM](#) story about the possible elimination of the ACA insurance mandate.

**Dr. Vivian Shibayama**, senior optometrist at the Jules Stein Eye Institute, was quoted in a [Reuters Health](#) story on the use of Botox for migraine pain, photophobia, and dry eye symptoms.

**Steven P. Wallace**, professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and associate director of the Fielding School's UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was quoted in a [WFPL-FM](#) story about a Crossfit gym that opened in a lower-income area of Louisville that has few places to exercise.

**Dr. Karol Watson**, professor of medicine/cardiology, co-director of the UCLA Program in Preventive Cardiology and director of the UCLA Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Health Program, was quoted in [Cardiology Today](#) and [Medical Xpress](#) about a Japanese study finding that higher doses of statins significantly reduced cardiovascular events and was well-tolerated in Japanese adults.

**Laura Wherry**, assistant professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine and health services research, commented in a [Reuters Health](#) article about a study finding that low-income children in the U.S. whose parents qualified for Medicaid were more likely to receive preventive care. [Yahoo! News U.K.](#), [Business Insider](#) and 19 other outlets carried the story.

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## BRIEFS

[U.S. News & World Report](#) referenced Johnese Spisso, president of UCLA Health and CEO of the UCLA Hospital System, in a story recapping insights shared during the U.S. News Healthcare of Tomorrow conference, at which Spisso spoke.

UCLA's newly launched [Cannabis Research Initiative](#) was mentioned in a [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) article about buying recreational marijuana. The article also appeared in the [Orlando Sentinel](#).

[Deadline Hollywood](#) reported that *The Promise*, a film produced by Dr. Eric Esrailian, may be up for an Oscar for its theme song. Esrailian is co-chief of the Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases.

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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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