



## **UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT**

**For the week of Nov. 18-23, 2016**

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**NPR highlights Companion Care Program at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica**

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**Opinion: Surviving “Trumpcare”**

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**Racial and ethnic groups suffer disproportionately from health problems**

**Opinion: Surviving “Trumpcare”**

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### **NPR highlights volunteer program for geriatric patients**

[NPR](#) aired a segment Nov. 21 on the Companion Care Program at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, in which volunteers visit with geriatric patients who have few, if any, visitors. Companions play cards, watch TV or just visit with elderly patients during their hospital stays. Dr. David Reuben, chief of the UCLA Division of Geriatrics, was interviewed, as was a volunteer and a patient who benefitted from the program. The story aired on local public radio stations nationwide and was published Nov. 22 by [Becker's Hospital Review](#).

### **Media feature research about community health centers**

[USA Today](#) and the [Detroit Free-Press](#) on Nov. 20 featured UCLA research about increased patient load at community health centers. The research was conducted by Steven P. Wallace, professor and chair of community health sciences and associate director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, and Maria-Elena Young, a doctoral student in community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

### **Opinion: Surviving “Trumpcare”**

The [Los Angeles Times](#) on Nov. 18 published an op-ed by Gerald Kominski, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the Fielding School, about how California can survive "Trumpcare."

### **Public health professor develops a medical drama for television**

Dr. Neal Baer, adjunct professor of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and co-director of the school's Global Media Center for Social Impact, was featured Nov. 17 in [Variety](#) about a new medical drama he is developing at 20th Century Fox Television.

### **Infectious disease expert discusses Zika's changed global emergency status**

Dr. Peter Katona, clinical professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and adjunct professor of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Nov. 21 in a [Vogue](#) article in which he explained why the World Health Organization ended Zika's status as a global health emergency and how it might affect holiday travel.

### **UCLA researcher explains new radiation technology on “The Doctors”**

[The Doctors](#) reported Nov. 10 on a new MRI-guided radiotherapy imaging system at UCLA called View Ray that allows physicians to see cancerous tumors and surrounding healthy tissue so the radiation beam targets the tumor with pinpoint precision. Dr. Percy Lee, assistant professor in the department of radiation oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was interviewed on the show.

### **How repealing the ACA might affect Californians**

Gerald Kominski, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the Fielding School, was a featured guest Nov. 18 in a report on [KSRO-AM](#), Santa Rosa, California, about the impact that repeal of the Affordable Care Act might have on people insured under Covered California.

### **Formula to penalize hospitals with high heart failure readmission rates may need revision**

[MedPage Today](#) reported Nov. 18 that the formula used by government agencies to penalize hospitals that have high 30-day rates of readmission for heart failure patients may be flawed and need revision, researchers suggested at the annual scientific sessions of the American Heart Association. Dr. Gregg Fonarow, Eliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science, and director of the Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center, was the study's senior author.

### **Healthcare in Brazil**

[News-Medical.net](#) and [MedicalXpress](#) highlighted Nov. 18 a special edition of the International Journal for Equity in Health, co-guest-edited by James Macinko, that collectively summarized the progress made in reducing Brazil's traditionally large gap in health status and in access to health care, while highlighting important areas that require additional efforts. Macinko is a professor of health policy and management and of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

### **Clinical trial results confirm effectiveness of breast cancer drug**

[News-Medical.net](#) on Nov. 18 highlighted phase three clinical trial results confirming that the drug palbociclib increased progression-free survival in women with ER+/HER2- breast cancer to over 20 months. The study was co-authored by Dr. Richard Finn, assistant professor of medicine in the division of hematology/oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and co-director of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Signal Transduction and Therapeutics Program; and Dr. Dennis Slamon, professor, chief and executive vice chair for research in the division of hematology/oncology and director of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Clinical and Translational Research.

### **Promising drug for high-grade glioma**

[Onlive](#) reported Nov. 17 on a study lead by Dr. Timothy Cloughesy on data from a phase one trial of Toca 511, a retroviral replicating vector that has been shown to increase median overall survival by

several months in high-grade glioma patients. Cloughesy is director of the UCLA Neuro-Oncology Program and a member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

### **Treating grade III brain tumors**

Dr. Daniel O'Connell, neuro-oncology fellow in the UCLA Department of Neurology, was featured Nov. 19 in an [Onclive](#) video report about a clinical trial of Optune in patients with grade III malignant glioma.

### **Racial and ethnic groups suffer disproportionately from health problems**

Gilbert Gee, professor of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was featured Nov. 21 by [ideastream](#) in an article about how different racial and ethnic groups in the United States suffer disproportionately from health problems and the role that chronic stress plays in those problems.

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## **NOTABLE BRIEFS**

Transcranial magnetic stimulation research conducted by UCLA researchers was referenced in the Dec. 2016 print edition of O, The Oprah magazine.

The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health was cited Nov. 23 in a [New York Times](#) article about access to healthy food in California's Central Valley and Nov. 22 in a [California Healthline](#) article about the future of Medi-Cal.

Dr. Jonathan Fielding, professor-in-residence of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited Nov. 17 in a [Health.gov](#) article on the Secretary of Health's Advisory Committee on National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives for 2030.

[Santa Monica Patch](#) reported Nov. 18 that UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was one of many local organizations and companies that supported the Santa Monica Police Activities League's Halloween event for children.

The Santa Monica Daily Press on Nov. 21 referred to UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica's weekly mindful meditation sessions in its community briefs column. Diana Winston, director of the Mindful Awareness Research Center, was quoted in the article.

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## **NOTABLE QUOTABLES**

Dr. Christopher Giza commented Nov. 21 in a [STAT News](#) article about how the nation's organ banks--created to study brain trauma--contain only a small percentage of female brains, potentially skewing results. Giza is director of the UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program and a professor of pediatrics and neurosurgery at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and Mattel Children's Hospital.

Dana Ellis Hunnes, senior dietitian at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and adjunct assistant professor of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Nov. 19 in a [SELF](#) magazine article about healthy fats to incorporate into one's diet.

Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, 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, was quoted Nov. 17 in a [Huffington Post](#) article about the discovery of a new antibody named N6 that can neutralize 98 percent of HIV variants.

Nadereh Pourat, adjunct professor of health policy and management and research director at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Nov. 21 in a [Dallas Morning News](#) article about women's health services in North Texas.

Mayumi Prins commented Nov. 21 in a [STAT News](#) article about how the nation's organ banks--created to study brain trauma--contain only a small percentage of female brains, potentially skewing results. Prins is associate director of the UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program and a professor of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

Dr. Christopher Saigal, professor and vice dean in the department of urology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Patients and Survivors Program, commented Nov. 22 in an [NBC Nightly News](#) report on the controversies surrounding the PSA test, prescribed by physicians to check men for signs of prostate cancer. The test was used to diagnose actor Ben Stiller with the disease.

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