



UCLA HEALTH SCIENCES MEDIA REPORT
For the week of Dec. 2-8, 2016

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Ask the Doctors: UCLA physicians launch new national column

What to know about memory loss as we age

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High numbers of a specific cell could be linked to prostate cancer

Study shines light on autism in the brain

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Ask the Doctors: UCLA physicians launch new national column

A new recurring column, "Ask the Doctors," features a Q&A with UCLA physicians on various topics related to health and medicine. The column launched Dec. 1 with a team of UCLA experts: Dr. Eve Glazier, internist and assistant professor in the department of medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine; Dr. Elizabeth Ko, internist and primary care physician at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center; and Dr. Robert Ashley, internist and assistant professor in the department of medicine at the Geffen School. Ask the Doctors is being syndicated in over 50 papers across the country. This week's topics included:

- Parents concerned about babies sleeping on their stomachs, featured in [The Spokesman-Review](#).
- The importance of staying active during the workday, featured in [The Sentinel](#).
- The health effects of moderate alcohol use, featured in [The Californian](#).
- The chance of future polio outbreaks, featured in the [Elko Daily Free Press](#).
- The risk of a Zika outbreak in the U.S., featured in [Tulsa World](#).
- The impact of taking acetaminophen during pregnancy, featured in [The Scranton Times-Tribune](#).

What to know about memory loss as we age

Dr. Gary Small, director of geriatric psychiatry at the Semel Institute and director of the UCLA Longevity Center, was featured Dec. 5 in a [New York Times](#) story on forgetfulness, more serious forms of memory loss, and distinguishing between the two.

Rare infant seizures often go undiagnosed

[HealthDay News](#) and [MedPage Today](#) reported Dec. 6 and [Neurology Advisor](#) reported Dec. 4 on research finding that a rare form of epilepsy in infants is often missed by pediatricians, leading to devastating health consequences. Lead author Dr. Shaun Hussain, an assistant professor of pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, was quoted. The HealthDay report was syndicated by US News & World Report, WebMD, United Press International, the Philadelphia Inquirer, Univision and many other outlets.

High numbers of a specific cell could be linked to prostate cancer

[Technology.org](#), [Medical News Today](#), [MedicalXpress](#), and [News-Medical.Net](#) reported Dec. 7, and [Bio Portfolio](#), [Science Daily](#) and [Dolphnsix News](#) reported Dec. 6 on a study finding that the progenitor cell located in unusually high numbers in inflamed areas of the prostate can increase the risk for cancer. Dr. Andrew Goldstein, assistant professor of urology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA was lead author of the study and was quoted. Goldstein is also a member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine & Stem Cell Research.

Study shines light on autism in the brain

Dr. Daniel Geschwind, the Gordon and Virginia MacDonald Distinguished Chair in Human Genetics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, led a study examining the molecular abnormalities that are shared in the brains of those with autism spectrum disorder. The study was covered Dec. 8 on [Spectrum](#); Dec. 6 on [News-Medical.net](#); and Dec. 5 on [MedicalXpress](#), [Science Daily](#), and [Neuroscience News](#).

Hollywood should tell more stories addressing HIV / AIDS

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 Dec. 2 on [KPCC-FM](#) about efforts to incorporate more storylines that feature characters who have HIV and/or AIDS.

Huffington Post addresses constitutional rights for people with disabilities

An article about constitutional rights for people with disabilities co-authored by Dr. Jody Heymann, dean of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and founding director of the WORLD Policy Analysis Center; WORLD Senior Legal Analyst Aleta Sprague; and Michael Ashley Stein, co-founder and executive director at the Harvard Law School Project on Disability, was published Dec. 2 by [The Huffington Post](#).

Radiologist enlightens 4 million people about his job

Dr. Justin McWilliams led a REDDIT "[Ask Me Anything](#)" podcast on Nov. 18 about the lifesaving work he performs as an interventional radiologist at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. An online audience of nearly 4 million people asked him questions in real time.

What makes your voice sound like you?

[Neuroscience News](#) reported Dec. 2 on new findings presented by researchers Jody Kreiman and Patricia Keating about what makes your voice unique. Kreiman is a professor of head and neck surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Keating is a professor of linguistics at the

College of Letters and Science. The story was syndicated by United Press International, Health News Digest, ScienMag, Phys Org, Dolphnsix and Hacker News.

UCLA physician pens column with tips for better sleep

Dr. Leena Nathan, obstetrician-gynecologist at UCLA Health-Westlake Village, authored a Dec. 1 column on the importance of good sleep habits that appeared in five editions of [The Acorn](#), a weekly newspaper that covers several Conejo Valley communities.

Westside publications cover Santa Monica NICU's Patient-Satisfaction Award

[Santa Monica Mirror](#) and [Century City View](#) reported Dec. 8 that the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica was honored in November with a "Guardians of Excellence Award" from Press Ganey Associates for sustaining high patient-satisfaction scores. Stephanie Hines, unit director, and David Bailey, chief nursing officer, were quoted.

The truth about kombucha

[Business Insider](#) published Dec. 7 a video featuring Dr. Zhaoping Li discussing the verity of different health claims around kombucha. Li is a professor of clinical medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and director of UCLA's Center for Human Nutrition.

Worldwide constitutional rights of persons with disabilities

Research conducted by the WORLD Policy Analysis Center at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health about worldwide constitutional rights for persons with disabilities was featured Dec. 4 by [Disabled-World.com](#) and Dec. 2 by [MedicalXpress](#).

No safety net for three-quarters of a million developmentally disabled Californians

Research conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health about Californians with developmental disabilities who are excluded from state services was featured Dec. 2 in a [California Health Report](#) article.

Freezing lung tumors after standard care can benefit patients

[Abestos.com](#) reported Dec. 6 on the benefits of using cryoablation, which freezes cancerous tumors, to treat patients with recurrent pleural mesothelioma, a form of lung cancer. Dr. Fereidoun Abtin, associate clinical professor of radiological sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, was quoted.

BRIEFS

An Oprah.com article that ran Dec. 1 on [The Huffington Post](#) about surprising things that make you age faster cited a UCLA study finding that women who suffered insomnia were two years older biologically than women of the same age who slept well. Steve Horvath, a professor of human genetics and biostatistics at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine at Fielding School of Public Health, led the research.

A study conducted by the G. Oppenheimer Center for Neurobiology of Stress and Resilience at UCLA on how probiotics in yogurt affect brain function was referenced Dec. 1 in a [Psychology Today](#) story on mental illness. It was also referenced Nov. 23 in a [Sustainable Food Trust](#) story about the gut and picked up Dec. 5 on [Resilience.org](#).

A study conducted by the UCLA Department of Neurosurgery showing that omega-3 fatty acids can offset a high fructose diet's damage on brain function was referenced Dec. 2 in an [Eat This, Not That!](#) story on health news. The story was picked up the same day on [Yahoo! Style](#).

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and the UCLA Stein Eye Institute were highlighted Dec. 7 in a [Curbed LA](#) story on significant building projects in Los Angeles in which black architects were involved.

Data from the California Health Interview Survey, conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was cited Dec. 6 by [California Health Report](#) in an article about teen bullying and associated serious psychological distress.

QUOTABLES

Dr. Roshan Bastani, professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and director of the UCLA Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Equity, commented in articles published Dec. 6 by [Semiconductor Engineering](#); Dec. 5 by [ScienceBlog.com](#) and [I-Connect007](#); Dec. 2 by [Heal Alerts](#) about a multidisciplinary UCLA-based computational model that reflects how humans think and communicate, which could lend insight into how parents feel about vaccines.

Dr. Dale Bredesen, a professor of neurology and director of neurodegenerative disease research at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Dec. 4 in a [Roanoke Times](#) article about mold-related illness.

Dr. Alice Chen, assistant clinical professor of medicine, was quoted Dec. 1 in a [Washington Post](#) article about a trauma surgeon who survived a shooting and now fights against gun violence.

Dr. Joe Hines, chief of general surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Dec. 1 in [Healthline](#) discussing new research in treating pancreatic and ovarian cancer.

Dana Hunnes, senior dietitian at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and an adjunct assistant professor at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted Dec. 5 in a [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#) story on getting sufficient amounts of magnesium in our diet. Hunnes also commented Dec. 6 in a [Live Science](#) article about how we can reduce our consumption of trans fats.

Dr. Richard J. Jackson, professor of environmental health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, was quoted published Dec. 1 in a [ConstructionDIVE](#) article about why the definition of infrastructure should include public buildings. He also commented Nov. 30 in [The Sacramento Bee](#) in an article about regulation of pesticide spraying near schools.

Emanuel Maidenberg, clinical professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute and David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Dec. 8 in a [Scientific American](#) story on a new study showing that optimism is linked to a longer life expectancy.

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor and vice chair of family medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and faculty associate at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, commented Dec. 6 in a [PM360](#) article about health insurance regulations under the Trump administration.

Dr. John Timmerman, associate professor of medicine in the division of hematology/oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and member of UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center Tumor Immunology Program, was quoted Dec. 3 in a [New York Times](#) article on immunotherapy treatments that can attack vital organs besides cancer cells, if the patient is not closely monitored by their oncologist. The story was syndicated by the Tampa Bay Times, Dolphnsix News, the Seattle Times, MSN, AFR, the Deccan Herald, Australia's Sydney Morning Herald and Brisbane Times.

Dr. Steven P. Wallace, professor and chair of community health sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and associate director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research at the Fielding School, commented Dec. 2 in a [BuzzFeed](#) article about the effect on community health clinics if the Affordable Care Act is repealed.

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