

UCLA Neurosurgery Connections



Message from the Chair

We are committed to providing the finest and most comprehensive patient care through innovative clinical programs in minimally invasive brain and spinal surgery, neuroendoscopy, neuro-oncology for both adult and pediatric brain tumors, cerebrovascular surgery, stereotactic radiosurgery for brain and spinal disorders, surgery for movement disorders such as Parkinson's disease, and epilepsy surgery. [Explore our clinical programs »](#)

- Neil Martin, MD



UCLA Live-Tweets Guitarist's Awake Brain Surgery

Media around the world covered Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center's 500th deep brain stimulation surgery in a patient who played guitar on the operating-room table midway through the procedure. The surgery, which implants a pacemaker in the patient's brain to regulate essential tremor, was tweeted live, with pictures and video. [Watch video »](#)



Robo-Doc, EVA, Navigates Hospital on Own

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, the world's first hospital to introduce a remote-presence robot into its neurological intensive-care unit in 2005, now welcomes the RP-VITA, the first robot able to navigate the hospital on its own. [Watch video of EVA in action »](#)



UCLA Teams with IBM for Brain Monitor

Researchers at the UCLA Department of Neurosurgery are working with IBM and Excel Medical Electronics to test new software that monitors vital signs and other data to predict rising brain pressure in patients who have suffered traumatic brain injuries. [Learn more »](#)



Research Highlights Invisible Wounds of War

Dr. David Hovda, professor of neurosurgery and director of the Brain Injury Research Center, was featured in 60 Minutes segment about the military's treatment of traumatic brain injury. Hovda was credited as the individual who convinced the Pentagon that even a mild concussion can result in serious injury and should be treated. [Learn more »](#)



Advancing the Frontiers of Medical Knowledge

Dr. Nestor R. Gonzalez came to the United States to make his mark, and now he is recognized as one of the most innovative clinicians and researchers in the country. [Read more »](#)



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