

UCLA Neurosurgery Connections

Year in Review

On the Forefront of Value-Based Care Delivery



VALUE-BASED NEUROSURGERY
2013-2014 CLINICAL REPORT

The UCLA Department of Neurosurgery is pioneering numerous safety and quality initiatives that are driving down mortality rates, length of stay and readmissions, while reducing costs and simultaneously improving patient satisfaction at UCLA. [Read more »](#)

Committed to Driving Down Mortality Rates



We've reduced risk-adjusted mortality rates from the 84th percentile to the 18th percentile. The UCLA Comprehensive Spine Center ranked third in the country in risk-adjusted mortality. [Read more »](#)

Reduced Length of Stay by 1.65 Days



For the past five years, UCLA Neurosurgery has reduced length of stay by 1.65 days, from 8.23 days to 6.58 days for patients undergoing neurosurgical procedures. [Read more »](#)

Value-Based Neurosurgery Dropping Surgical Costs

15 -25%



Over the past two years, UCLA Neurosurgery engaged in a pilot to transform service lines with value and cost-containment initiatives that resulted in sustained outcome improvements and cost reductions of 15-25%. [Read more »](#)

Implantable Memory Aid to Repair Memory Loss in Military Men and Women



U.S. Department of Defense awarded \$15 million to Itzhak Fried, MD, PhD, to lead development and clinical testing of a surgically implantable wireless, neuro-prosthesis to deliver electrical stimulation to the brain to overcome memory deficits. The application could also help Alzheimer's disease, epilepsy and stroke patients. Read more about the [Memory Restoration Program »](#)

UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT Program Receives \$10 Million for Sports Concussions



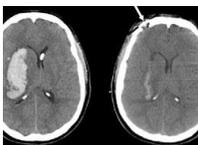
Steve Tisch, co-owner of the NFL's New York Giants, donated \$10 million to advance the BrainSPORT program founded by Christopher Giza, MD. The program aimed at research, treatment and prevention of concussions in young athletes received recognition by President Obama at a recent White House Sports Concussions Summit. [Read more »](#)

Personalized Brain Cancer Vaccine in Phase III Clinical Trials



Linda Liao, MD, PhD, director of the UCLA Brain Tumor Center, received the sixth NIH/NINDS R25 resident research grant. Her personalized brain cancer vaccine DCVax®, developed in the UCLA lab, is in Phase III clinical trials being conducted in over 50 locations throughout the America, England and Germany. [Read more »](#)

UCLA Clinical Trial Shows Promise for Brain Hemorrhage Patients



Minimally Invasive Intraoperative CT Scan Guided Endoscopic Surgery (ICES)
Neil Martin, MD and Paul Vespa, MD will expand and lead a national, multi-centered clinical trial investigating minimally invasive intraoperative CT-scan-guided endoscopic surgery that appears to be safer and more effective outcomes as compared with the standard medical treatment for brain hemorrhage. [Read more »](#)

Stimulating Growth of Blood Vessels in the Brain to Prevent Stroke



Nestor Gonzalez, MD is leading the application of EDAS surgery, an indirect bypass for the treatment of narrowing arteries in the brain. He has performed more than 100 procedures. During the surgery, he "borrows" an artery from the scalp and places it in the brain, stimulating vessels to grow. [Read more »](#)

Spinal Cord Research-Steps toward walking after paralysis



Daniel C. Lu, MD, PhD, director of the Neuromotor Recovery and Rehabilitation Center, is stimulating lost motor function, such as stepping and balance, in patients inflicted with a spinal cord injury and paralysis. Epidural electrodes placed over the lumbosacral spinal cord are modulating the excitability of the neural circuits. [Read more »](#)

Global Neurosurgery Institute Opens in the Edie & Lew Wasserman Building at UCLA



The UCLA Global Neurosurgery Institute is bringing together world-class neurosurgeons and neuroscientists in, the state-of-the-art Edie & Lew Wasserman Building. The Global Neurosurgery Institute will house the Scholar's Pavilion, Clinical Pavilion, Conference Pavilion and a Telemedicine Center. [Read more »](#)