UW Medicine in the News in 2012

January 2012

1/9/12 New York Times
Joann Elmore, Medicine/Epidemiology, and Robert Harrington, Medicine/Allergy & Infectious Diseases, were interviewed for an article about a pair of U.S. studies published in the Annals of Internal Medicine finding that patients want easy access to their doctor's notes. The studies surveyed more than 37,000 patients and more than 170 primary-care physicians in advance of the debut of OpenNotes, a system that gives patients an online portal to their doctors' comments from a visit. Dr. Elmore led a portion of the study based at Harborview Medical Center

1/15/12 Juneau Empire
Airlift Northwest Flight Nurse Rick Janik was profiled for the feature column “Healthcare Professional of the Month”

1/22/12 Spokesman Review
David Tauben, Medicine/Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, was interviewed for a story about a new Washington State law that took effect in January 2012 aimed at reducing prescription pain medication overdose deaths by launching the first dosing limits for doctors and others who prescribe these medicines. The law is being heralded as one of the toughest in the nation. Dr. Tauben said he is optimistic the new law will encourage more doctors to treat pain patients because they will have guidelines to follow.

1/23/12 New York Times
Tom Reh, Biological Structure, was interviewed about his research concerning retinal regeneration for this story about a study published in The Lancet online that found a treatment for eye diseases that is derived from human embryonic stem cells might have improved the vision of two patients.

1/27/12 KCTS Public Television
Alex Cahana, Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, was a guest on a panel discussion about pain management and opioid abuse that followed a KCTS documentary titled, “Prescription for Abuse.” The documentary focused on the alarming increase in prescription drug abuse in Washington State, looking at doctors who overprescribe, the lack of regulation or treatment options, and how this epidemic is affecting teenagers, seniors and middle-class families.

1/30/12 New York Times, Reuters and numerous other media outlets
Amanda Fretts, senior research fellow, Medicine, was interviewed about her research in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition that found Native Americans who often ate processed meat in a can -- a common food on reservations that is subsidized by the government -- had a two-fold increased risk of developing diabetes compared with those who ate little or none of the product.

1/31/12 New York Times
Story ran about FDA approval of the first drug that treats an underlying cause of cystic fibrosis, Kalydeco, also known as invacaftor or VX-770. The oral medicine targets the defective protein produced by the gene mutation called G551D that causes cystic fibrosis. The FDA approval follows
the results of a clinical trial study published in the November 2, 2011 issue of *The New England Journal of Medicine* and led by Bonnie Ramsey, Pediatrics, and director for Clinical and Translational Research at Seattle Children’s Research Institute. The study was the third and final in a series designed to assess VX-770’s effectiveness and safety before FDA approval.

**1/31/12 ESPN.com**  
Richard Ellenbogen, Neurological Surgery, was interviewed for a story about high school athlete Zackery Lystedt, who suffered a life-changing concussion that also resulted in his family spearheading passage of the nation’s most comprehensive return-to-play concussion law for high school sports. Governor Christine Gregoire signed the bill into law in May 2009. Named for Lysted, the law requires all athletes under the age of 18 to obtain a licensed healthcare provider’s approval before being allowed to return play after a concussion, and requires school districts to work with the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association to develop standards for educating parents, players and coaches about the dangers of concussions and head injuries.

**February 2012**

**2/7/12 Seattle Times**  
Paul Ramsey, CEO of UW Medicine and dean of the School of Medicine, authored an op-ed titled “Investment in medical research saves lives, boosts economy” that discusses how dramatic improvements in mortality rates from common diseases are taking place as a result of advances in medical research. The article argued that cutting the federal budget deficit should not mean cutting money for medical research that has countered heart disease, cancer HIV, tuberculosis and other conditions that diminish lives.

**2/10/12 KCPQ FOX 13 News, ABC News, and numerous other media outlets**  
Judith Wasserheit, Medicine/Global Health, was interviewed about a study she co-authored in *The New England Journal of Medicine* that found gonorrhea, one of the world’s most common sexually transmitted infections, is becoming increasingly resistant to antibiotics typically used to treat it in the US.

**2/14/12 KING 5 News**  
Story aired featuring Gabriel Aldea, Cardiac Surgery, and his 98-year-old patient Roy Matsumoto, who were both interviewed at UW Medical Center for a story on the transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) partner trial, a national study determining the safety and effectiveness of this procedure in both high-risk operable and inoperable patients with symptomatic critical aortic stenosis.

**2/14/12 Wall Street Journal**  
Graham Nichol, medicine/general internal medicine and director, Center for Prehospital Emergency Care, and Andreas Grabinsky, Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, were featured in an article about a new push to improve the care patients receive after they call 911, when minutes can make the difference between life and death. The Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium (ROC) Study, a group of 10 regional centers based at UW Medicine and conducting clinical trials related to treating sudden cardiac arrest, was mentioned, as was Dr. Nichol’s 2008 study that found survival rates for EMS-
treated cardiac arrest in 10 major regions varied from a high of 16.3 percent in Seattle to a low of 3 percent in Alabama.

2/15/12 KPLU Radio
Samuel Miller, Medicine/Allergy & Infectious Diseases, was interviewed by KPLU reporter Tom Paulson for a story about a panel of invited experts meeting at the World Health Organization this week to discuss whether two controversial experiments involving the avian influenza (bird flu) virus H5N1 should be published.

2/15/12 AAMC Reporter
AAMC Reporter’s February issue featured a full two-page spread about the WWAMI 40th anniversary, the history of the WWAMI program, and where the program is next headed. The article included an interview with Suzanne Allen, vice dean for regional affairs, along with historical and present-day photos.

2/17/12 KOMO 4 News, KING 5 News, KIRO 7 News, KCPQ Fox 13 News
Chuck Murry, Pathology and co-director of the Institute for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine, was featured in a 30 second spot that aired over several months beginning in mid-February and celebrated the Pacific Science Center’s 50th anniversary. The spot included Bill Gates and other notable science supporters and aired on various Seattle TV stations over a three-month period.

2/21/12 Billings Gazette
A story about the WWAMI program featured ISIS – the Institute for Simulation and Interprofessional Studies – and showed how a simulated laboratory replicates clinical conditions and situations that allow students to practice a procedure until it becomes second nature. The article reported that this type of learning through simulation is revolutionizing the way medicine is being taught in the WWAMI program.

2/27/12 KOMO 4 News
Richard Ellenbogen, Neurological Surgery, was interviewed for a story about his patient, high school dance coach Lindsey Beck, who had a cavernous hemangioma. Four weeks after major spinal surgery, Beck was released from Harborview Medical Center and two days later led her dance team to win first place in the state champions and also received Coach of the Year Award. Her story was one of several patient videos featured at this year’s UW Medicine Salutes Harborview event.

March 2012

3/1/12 Wyoming Business Report
Paul Ramsey, CEO of UW Medicine and dean of the School of Medicine, was interviewed for a story about WWAMI’s 40th Anniversary and Wyoming’s 15th Anniversary in the WWAMI program. WWAMI has been recognized nationally as the most cost-effective medical school in the nation and, over its four decades, has proved to be a very high quality program for medical education that can serve as a model for the full continuum of health education.
3/2/12 KIRO 7 News
Paul Nghiem, Medicine/Dermatology, was interviewed for a story about his research in Phase II clinical trials studying Merkel cell carcinoma. Dr. Nghiem has been using medical technologies such as OncoSec Medical, which is also being used to treat melanoma, and is preparing to initiate a third Phase II study for cutaneous T-cell lymphoma this year.

3/11/12 CBS Sunday Morning with Charles Osgood
Nathaniel Watson, Neurology, and co-director of the UW Medicine Sleep Center at Harborview, was featured in an in-depth story about sleep disorders and how one-third of all Americans face health risks, some severe, by not getting the recommended amount of sleep. Three of Dr. Watson’s patients were featured to help explain some of the risk factors and symptoms associated with sleep disorders, such as weight gain.

3/12/12 CBS News
Jonathan Wright, Urology, was interviewed for a story about circumcision and how it may protect against prostate cancer. The story focused on how circumcision can help prevent inflammation and infection, including sexually transmitted infections. Although observational only, data suggest a biologically plausible mechanism through which circumcision may decrease the risk of prostate cancer.

Eileen Bulger, Surgery, was interviewed for a story about 8-year-old Amina Kocer-Bowman, who was critically injured February 22, 2012 following a shooting at her school in Bremerton. She underwent eight surgeries and was discharged from Harborview in early April.

3/14/12 KCTS Public Television
Stan Herring, Rehabilitation Medicine and director, UW Medicine Spine Center, gave a lecture to an audience at T.S. McHugh's regarding concussion in sports. He explained the complex metabolic process in concussion, its prevalence in all contact sports for both men and women, and how common concussions are, with almost 4 million sports/recreational concussions per year and 16 deaths every year. He also discussed the importance of awareness among all school districts and families.

Stories ran featuring Nahush Mokadam, Cardiovascular Surgery and co-director of heart transplantation at UW Medical Center, and his 51-year-old patient Christopher Marshall, the first patient in the Northwest to leave a hospital with an artificial heart. Marshall’s physicians replaced his heart with a total artificial heart, which Marshall kept until a donor heart later became available for his planned heart transplant.

3/22/12 KING 5 News
Jennifer Azen, resident in internal medicine, was a guest on the show New Day Northwest, discussing anxiety and depression disorders and the role chronic illness plays as a risk factor for anxiety and depression. Dr. Azen explained that the UW Medicine Neighborhood Clinic in Kent/Des Moines is the first to have a mental health integration program that effectively incorporates mental health care into primary care.
3/23/12 Spokesman-Review
Paul Ramsey, CEO of UW Medicine and dean of the School of Medicine, was interviewed for a story about the announcement by the UW School of Medicine and Washington State University to initiate a pilot WWAMI second-year medical school training program at the Spokane Riverpoint campus. The agreement was announced March 23 after two years of planning related to curriculum renewal and workforce needs. The announcement coincided with both a celebration in Spokane of WWAMI’s 40th anniversary and the second Graduate Medical Education Summit attended by more than 100 educators, legislative representatives and administrators from the region and nation.

3/23/12 KXLY TV (ABC-Spokane), National Public Radio
Ken Roberts, director of WWAMI Spokane, was interviewed for a story about the March 23 announcement by the UW School of Medicine and Washington State University to initiate a pilot WWAMI second-year medical school training program at the Spokane Riverpoint campus.

3/23/12 Wall Street Journal, KPLU Radio’s Humanosphere Blog
Jared Baeten, Global Health, was interviewed about his study on the link between hormonal birth control and HIV.

3/26/12 The (UW) Daily
Suzanne Allen, vice dean for regional Affairs, UW School of Medicine, and Ken Roberts, director of WWAMI Spokane, were interviewed for a story about the March 23 announcement by the UW School of Medicine and Washington State University to initiate a pilot WWAMI second-year medical school training program at the Spokane Riverpoint campus.

Douglas Smith, Orthopedics & Sports Medicine, Jeffrey Friedrich, Plastic Surgery, and Janna Friedly, Rehabilitation Medicine, were interviewed for a story about their patient Josh Divers, who had his legs amputated after the tires of a Boeing 787 airplane caught his feet and crushed them. Drs. Smith and Friedly explained the importance of prosthetic legs and the difficulty of walking on prosthetics on both limbs. A safety inspection by the state Department of Labor and Industries is still underway, as are reviews of the accident by Boeing and Machinist union representatives.

April 2012

4/1/12 French Tribune and other media outlets
Hannele Ruohola-Baker, Biochemistry, was interviewed about her discovery that as soon as an embryo implants in the uterus, its cells temporarily take on a metabolism similar to cancer cells.

4/4/12 KPLU Radio
Peter Kudenchuk, Medicine/Cardiology, was featured in a story about CPR saving lives without the need of electric shock. Dr. Kudenchuk explained that victims who get CPR that emphasizes chest compressions have a survival rate that is nearly double that for older types of CPR. The latest research looks at the silent majority of people who suffer sudden cardiac arrest. These are victims
whose heart stops beating, and they drop to the floor but cannot be revived with electrical shocks (or defibrillation).

Evan Eichler, Genome Sciences, was interviewed about his research on identifying several gene mutations that sharply increase the chances a child will develop autism. Many of these genes are found in affected children but not in either parent. The team also found further evidence that the risk increases with the age of the parents, particularly in fathers over age 35.

4/8/12 New York Times
Jane Ballantyne, Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, was featured in a story about the widespread use of opioids and explained that many doctors do not understand how hard it is to get patients off of these drugs. Before the widespread use of opioids, the UW School of Medicine was known for an approach to chronic pain that emphasized nondrug treatments like physical therapy and counseling. Ballantyne, along with Alex Cahana, chief of the Division of Pain Medicine in the Department of Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, is determined to revive that tradition.

4/9/12 Q13 Fox News
David Tauben, Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, was featured in a story about prescription painkillers, healthier ways to manage pain, and the over-prescribing issue with opioids in treating chronic pain.

4/16/12 Seattle Times
Stephen Dager, Radiology, and Evan Eichler, Genome Sciences, were featured in a story about autism. They are trying to find ways to diagnose the disorder much earlier, beginning at six months of age, so children held captive by autism’s often-devastating symptoms can get help coping in the world.

4/18/12 New York Times
Ferric Fang, Laboratory Medicine/Microbiology, was interviewed for a story about a sharp rise in scientific retractions. Fang and other physicians across the United States discovered that retractions were rising at an alarming rate, but also that retractions were a manifestation of a much more profound problem, which he explained as a dysfunctional scientific climate.

4/20/12 CBS News
Ali Mokdad, Global Health and Institute for Health Metrics & Evaluation, was interviewed about his study finding that women tend to live longer than men, but lag behind them in life expectancy gains. Mokdad and his team analyzed county-by-county data from 1989 to 2009. In that time period, life expectancy for men improved by an average of 4.6 years - but for women, it improved by only 2.7 years.

4/29/12 HealthDay
Jennifer Whitehill, senior fellow in pediatrics, Harborview Injury Prevention and Research Center, was interviewed about compulsive cell phone users and the relation to car accidents. She explained the connection between driving mishaps and young people who show symptoms similar to those of addiction in relationship to cell phone use. The studies were slated for presentation at the annual meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies in Boston.
May 2012

5/1/12 USA Today
Nate Watson, Neurology, and co-director of the UW Medicine Sleep Center, was featured in a story about the connection between sleep, weight and the role of genetics. Dr. Watson and his colleagues analyzed self-reported data on height, weight and sleep duration of 604 pairs of identical twins and 484 sets of fraternal twins in the University of Washington Twin Registry.

5/5/12 New York Times
Jay Rubinstein, Otolaryngology, was featured in an in-depth story about audio technology that replaces hearing aids and offers new options to help people converse in noisy places. The new technology is in earphones that connect to a directional microphone on an iPhone, which has an app to amplify and process sound. Dr. Rubinstein explained how a system that gives a high-quality directional microphone and good earphones can help people hear in complex settings.

5/16/12 USA Today
Suzanne Craft, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, was interviewed about her small pilot study at the University of Washington showing that insulin sprayed directly into the brain through an inhaler device might slow Alzheimer’s disease. Brain cells need insulin, which provides glucose, a form of food for brain cells, Dr. Craft said, adding that the preliminary trial was promising since memory improved.

Story ran about Joshua Akey, Genome Sciences, who discovered that humans are riddled with rare genetic variants that are a consequence of the population boom starting 5,000 years ago.

5/21/12 Seattle Times, KPLU Radio
Story ran about David Baker, Biochemistry/Bioengineering, and his research colleagues who have designed proteins to prevent flu viruses of all types, including pandemic flu, from infecting cells. The methods may apply to creating proteins against emerging pathogens.

6/2/12 KOMO 4 News, KING 5 News, KIRO 7 News, KCPQ FOX 13, other media outlets
Michael Gofeld, Neurological Surgery, was featured in a story about his patient Kirsten Swizter, who suffered an injury which caused nerve damage that was later diagnosed as reflex sympathetic dystrophy, or RSD. In 2000, she received a Medronic implant in her spine and is now the first patient at the UW Medical Center to receive a newer version of the spinal cord nerve stimulator.

June 2012

6/6/12 New York Times, CNN, Bloomberg, Fox News, ABC, CBS, MSN, NPR, Der Speigel, BBC, and other media outlets
Jay Shendure, Genome Sciences, was interviewed for a story about an unborn baby's entire genetic code being mapped in the womb using DNA taken from its parents. According to Dr. Shendure, this
work opens up the possibility to scan the entire genome of the fetus for more than 3000 single-gene disorders through a single, non-invasive test.

6/22/12 Puget Sound Business Journal
A story focused on UW Medicine receiving grant funding for a program that helps patients with multiple ailments. UW Medicine is one of several partners to benefit from a nearly $18 million Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services grant for a project to improve care management for patients with depression and diabetes and/or cardiovascular disease. Jurgen Unutzer, psychiatry & behavioral sciences, leads the UW work in the AIMS Center.

July 2012

7/5/12 Q13 Fox News
Jay Shendure, Genome Sciences, was interviewed in a story about how a mother’s blood shows birth defects in fetal DNA. Dr. Shendure explained that it will probably take a few more years before such noninvasive whole genome tests are ready for use in the clinic. He was principal investigator in a study published last month in *Science Translational Medicine* that sequenced the fetal genome using a blood sample from the mother and saliva from the father.

7/12/12 Seattle Magazine
*Seattle Magazine*'s “Top Doctors” Report for the July 2012 Issue named many of UW Medicine’s physicians as some of the top doctors in the health industry. In-depth stories in the Top Docs issue feature Kathleen Bell, Rehabilitation Medicine, for breakthrough work in head trauma, and Bonnie Ramsey, Pediatrics, for research in cystic fibrosis. Additionally, *Seattle Magazine* focused on global health and featured three UW Medicine faculty, Corey Casper, Medicine/Allergy & Infectious Diseases, Judd Walson, Global Health/Medicine/Pediatrics, and Paul Yager, chair of Bioengineering, for their contributions to the field.

7/13/12 The Atlantic
Jared Baeten, Medicine/Global Health, was interviewed in a story about the implications of a new drug named Truvada that can prevent 90 percent of HIV infections. Dr. Baeten explained that Truvada is a new HIV prevention strategy that had not previously been tested. He stated that by having the medication already in one’s bloodstream and cells, by the time an individual came into contact with virus, it would block the virus from taking hold, eventually blocking infection.

7/13/12 Q13 Fox News, Reuters
Michael Gale, Immunology, was featured in a story about a study that explains why the human body cannot fight off an HIV infection. The study argues that a single protein that the virus produces thwarts human defenses. Dr. Gale explained that the research team effectively identified a new Achilles heel in the arsenal that HIV uses to overcome the defenses present in the body's immune system. As a result, this can be used to design new HIV antiviral therapeutics.

7/16/12 CNN
Connie Celum, Medicine/Global Health, was featured in a story about a new drug named Truvada approved by the FDA for the prevention of HIV/AIDS. Dr. Celum is the lead investigator for the PrEP
study at UW Medicine that has proved to be very successful in reducing infection rates in couples in which one partner is infected and the other is not. Dr. Celum explained that the data demonstrates that Truvada as pre-exposure prophylaxis is effective at reducing the risk of HIV infection acquired through sexual exposure.

7/17/12 Puget Sound Business Journal
A story reporting the latest hospital rankings from US News & World Report include University of Washington Medical Center and Harborview Medical Center. UW Medical Center ranked first in Washington State and in the Seattle metropolitan area among hospitals. It also ranked nationally in 10 adult specialties and was categorized as high-performing in four adult specialties. Harborview ranked second in both the region and state and Valley Medical Center ranked fourth in the region and seventh in the state.

7/22/12 Seattle Times, KOMO 4 News, KING 5 News, KIRO 7 News
A story focused on a $65 million research grant award that the UW Institute of Translational Health Sciences received from the National Institutes of Health. The grant is focused on helping UW turn laboratory research into medical treatments. Nora Disis, Medicine/Oncology, directs the institute.

7/23/12 Associated Press, The San Francisco Examiner
Bruce Psaty, Medicine/Epidemiology, and Fred Rivara, Pediatrics, were featured in a story about whether children should be screened for high cholesterol which could lead to prescribing medicine for some children. Drs. Psaty and Rivara raised concerns about putting children on statins for high cholesterol, noting the medicine has been linked to a rare muscle-damaging condition in adults.

7/24/12 Seattle Times
A story focused on UW researchers working on studies to simulate kidneys in hope of improving drug trials. Researchers such as Jonathan Himmelfarb, Medicine/Nephrology, will soon grow tissue cells inside three-dimensional chips, in hopes of simulating organs for drug testing. This revolutionary project is aimed at taking humans out of early phases of clinical trials. The UW is the only institution to study the kidney.

7/25/12 US News & World Report
Russell Van Gelder, chair of Ophthalmology, was featured in a story about a novel chemical that temporarily restored some vision to blind mice and that may lead to a treatment to help degenerative blindness. Dr. Van Gelder explained that the researchers still need to show that these compounds are safe and will work in people the way they work in mice, but the results demonstrate that this class of compound restores light sensitivity to retinas blind from genetic disease.

Joshua Akey, Genome Sciences, discussed how decoding the genomes of hunter-gatherers reveals the possibility of a previously unknown archaic cousin to the Neanderthals. Dr. Akey explained how genetic data and fossil evidence tell different tales of human origins.

7/27/12 Puget Sound Business Journal
Paul Ramsey, CEO, UW Medicine and dean of the School of Medicine, wrote an op-ed article titled “The ABCs of Accountable Care” that outlines what accountable care organizations (ACOs) are and what defines a successful ACO.
August 2012

8/7/12 Health Day, Bloomberg, Philadelphia Inquirer, Business Week, Reuters, other media outlets
Laura Baker, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, was interviewed for a story about her research on human growth hormones that reduce symptoms of dementia in elderly persons. Dr. Baker explained that growth hormone-releasing hormone does not target one specific area in the body and brain. Rather, it stimulates an entire cascade of hormones in the body and brain and stimulates normal function of a system that was working at a younger age so that cells can do what they were programmed to do at birth.

8/7/12 Wall Street Journal
Irl Hirsch, Medicine/Metabolism, Endocrinology and Nutrition, was featured in a story about an increase in misdiagnosis of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes in patients. Dr. Hirsch explained that an incorrect diagnosis usually occurs in the offices of primary-care doctors, many of whom have not received adequate education in medical school about rising rates of Type 1 diabetes in adults and how to diagnose it.

8/8/12 Seattle Times, KING 5 News, KIRO 7 News, KOMO 4 News, other media outlets
Charles E. Murry, Bioengineering and Medicine/Cardiology, and Michael Laflamme, Pathology, were interviewed about their research on regenerating a damaged human heart. They explain that transplanting human heart cells — derived from embryonic stem cells — into damaged guinea-pig hearts synchronized with and strengthened the animals’ hearts and provided protection from dangerous rhythm disturbances.

8/12/12 Longview Daily News, Seattle Times
A story focused on the decrease in primary-care physicians in rural and urban areas such as Cowlitz County and included information about UW Medicine’s WWAMI program, how Washington is an importer for physicians, and how studies have shown that students tend to practice where they went to medical school or completed residency training. The article discussed how WWAMI gives medical students the opportunity to focus on rural and urban areas, thereby increasing the number of physicians in those areas.

8/17/12 NBC, MSN, NPR, ABC and other media outlets
William Bremner, chair of Medicine, was interviewed for a story about the possibility of a newly developed male birth control. Dr. Bremner explained that men should be given additional opportunities to participate in safe contraception. This would allow them increased control over their own fertility and would ease the health burden of unwanted pregnancies and contraception incurred by women.

8/29/12 ESPN
Jonathan Drezner, Family Medicine, was interviewed for a story about an increase in sudden cardiac arrest in young athletes. Dr. Drezner, who is also the lead researcher of an NCAA-funded study, is analyzing the barriers to identify cardiac abnormalities in college athletes.
September 2012

9/5/12 NPR and 9/10/12 Wall Street Journal
John Stamatoyannopoulos, Genome Sciences, was featured in a story about his research in the ENCODE project, which set out to decipher the intricate regulatory code that controls the human genome. Researchers discovered that genetic changes linked to more than 400 common diseases all affect the genome’s ability to control when, where and how genes behave—not the genes themselves.

09/19/12 Los Angeles Times
Julia Lemos, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, and colleagues identified a missing link between stress and depression in an animal model: a peptide called corticotropin-releasing factor, or CRF plays a nuanced role in an area of the brain called the nucleus accumbens, a region well known for its role in motivation, pleasure and social behavior.

9/25/12 KOMO 4 News, KING 5 News, KIRO 7 News, KCPQ FOX 13, and other outlets
Tom Benedetti, Obstetrics/Gynecology, was interviewed about his statewide effort to lower the rate of elective deliveries before the 39th week of pregnancy. He explained that babies born before 39 weeks experience a higher rate of breathing problems, a harder time maintaining body temperature, and a higher chance of cerebral palsy – adding that good prenatal care is key to preventing early delivery.

09/25/2012 KOMO 4 News, KING 5 News, KIRO 7 News, KCPQ FOX 13
A story ran about UW Medical Center’s first patient to receive a total artificial heart, who has now received a real heart after undergoing a heart transplant. Chris Marshall spoke publicly for the first time since his successful transplant operation in September 2012.

October 2010

10/02/2012 New York Times
Christopher Standaert, Rehabilitation, UW Medicine Spine Center, was featured in a story about meningitis cases and their link to steroid injections in the spine. He explained that the recent outbreak of meningitis has killed two people and sickened 12 others who have received steroid injections in their spines for pain. Dr. Standaert and other doctors across the U.S. suspect that the steroid medicine was contaminated with a fungus. The meningitis does not spread from person to person.

10/03/2012 Seattle Times
A story featuring the UW Department of Bioengineering included an interview with Charles McLien III, director of the Bioengineering Affiliates Program, who explained that the public sector can be a businessman’s best friend, feeding established businesses new discoveries and nurturing young entrepreneurs. In particular, McLien explained how university researchers get to see their work put to practical use.
10/5/12 KUOW
KUOW's Ross Reynolds interviewed Ferric Fang, Laboratory Medicine/Microbiology, about his work regarding fraud in scientific research. The study showed that most retracted papers were due to outright misconduct. His study was also covered by both national and international outlets.

10/10/2012 Seattle Times
A story ran about the new energy-efficient Montlake Tower addition to UW Medical Center. A photo showed the new MRI, which uses three Tesla magnets and features a larger-diameter tube that is more than a foot larger than standard MRI machines.

10/18/2012 KOMO 4 News, KING 5 News, KIRO 7 News, KCPQ FOX 13, and other outlets
Jordan Prutkin, Medicine/Cardiology, was interviewed for a story about his patient, Merle Yoney, one of the first heart patients in the U.S. to pioneer a new kind of implanted defibrillator, an electronic device that automatically jump-starts a failing heart.

10/20/2012 KTVB
Idaho’s WWAMI medical education program received the 2012 American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation’s Outstanding Program Award for its Rural/Underserved Opportunities Program (R/UOP).

10/22/12 Wall Street Journal
Thomas Varghese, Cardiothoracic Surgery, was interviewed for a story about his work as the medical director of the Strong for Surgery program, a novel patient-centered approach in Washington State to improving the health of patients before they undergo surgery. The program has joined with partners, including the American College of Surgeons, to provide preoperative checklists focusing on risk factors that can be modified before surgery. Dr. Varghese’s lung surgery patient, 67-year-old Doug Rice, was also featured in the article.

10/26/12 Puget Sound Business Journal
Paul Ramsey, CEO of UW Medicine and dean of the School of Medicine, was quoted in an article about UW Medicine and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center entering into their first-ever fundraising partnership to raise hundreds of millions of dollars to fight cancer.

November 2012

11/1/12 Nature
Debbie Nickerson and Evan Eichler, Genome Sciences, were featured in an article about the work of UW genome scientists to help create an integrated map of human genetic variation as part of the 1000 Genomes Projects Consortium. The project details the geographical and functional spectrum of common and rare differences in the genetic profiles of individuals and populations from various parts of the world. It is a multi-national, multi-institutional effort that is building a widely accessible resource for understanding the contributions of genetics to health and disease.
11/18/12 CNN
Alex Cahana and Jane Ballantyne, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, were featured in a documentary hosted by CNN’s Dr. Sanjay Gupta, titled Deadly Dose, which explored the epidemic of opioid drug abuse.

11/27/12 KUOW Radio
George Kraft, Rehabilitation Medicine, and Sylvia Lucas, Neurology, were featured in a KUOW series about the mysteries of multiple sclerosis and its prevalence in the Pacific Northwest.

11/27/12 KCPQ TV
Eileen Bulger, Surgery, was interviewed for a story about flesh-eating bacteria. Harborview Medical Center is part of a nationwide clinical trial testing the drug AB-103 to combat the bacteria. Of 40 patients in the national study, 24 are participating at Harborview.

December 2012

12/12/12 Seattle Times
Beth Ebel, director of the Harborview Injury Prevention and Research Center, was interviewed about a study she co-authored for the journal Injury Prevention that found one third of Seattle pedestrians are living dangerously by texting, talking and listening to music on mobile devices while crossing busy streets. The study had observers watch 1,102 Seattle pedestrians at 20 intersections to see how many were using mobile devices.

Globally, we are living longer but getting sicker. That is one of the main findings from the Global Burden of Disease 2010 Study (GBD 2010), a collaborative project led by Chris Murray, Global Health and director of the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) and his IHME team at UW as well as researchers worldwide. The findings of GBD 2010 were announced at the Royal Society in London on December 14 and published in The Lancet, the first time the journal has dedicated an entire triple issue to a single study.

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