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## APRIL/CONTENTS





Rachael Harris Actress-Comedian



#### COVER STORIES & FEATURES

**10 Sad Anthem** Consumer group sues California health insurer

**12 Live Longer** Calcium may offer unique longevity benefit

**16 Special Report: The Future Of Medicine** Experts say the world is on the cusp of a "golden age" of genomics

**22 Money Talks** Who paid for that study?

**23 Use Your Hypnotic Mind To Lose Weight** Maria Olga Paiz

26 Stem Cell Hand Lift Surgical Male Enhancement

**27 Best Friend Ever** Rachael Harris on sensible eating, cheating with chocolate and self restraint

**30 Live On Purpose** Unleash your greatest power

#### **IN EVERY ISSUE**

- 6 Editor's Letter Vitamin K
- 8 Flash Ageing Gene Linked To Immunity
- 14 Diet Wine May Keep Weight In Check
- 20 Fitness Report Mix It Up At The Gym
- 24 Beauty Making Light Of Home Grooming
- **30 Environment** Climate Change May Extend Allergy Season
- 34 Alternative Possible Multivitamin Breast Cancer Link
- 34 Calendar Earth Day Celebration Hike

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### Vitamin K Intake Lowers Cancer Risk



eople with higher intakes of vitamin K from food may be less likely to develop or die of cancer, particularly lung or prostate cancers, than those who eat relatively few vitamin-K- containing foods, a new study suggests.

Vitamin K exists in two natural forms: vitamin K1, or phylloquinone, found largely in green leafy vegetables, as well as some

vegetable oils, such as canola and soybean oils; and vitamin K2, or menaquinone, for which meat and cheese are the primary dietary sources.

In the current study, vitamin K2 -- which study participants most frequently got through cheese -- was linked to the odds of developing or dying from cancer, where- as vitamin K1 was not.

The findings are based on data from 24,340 German adults who were between the ages of 35 and 64, and cancer-free at the outset. The researchers estimated the participants' usual vitamin K intake based on a detailed dietary questionnaire. Over the next decade, 1,755 participants were diagnosed with colon, breast, prostate

#### Vitamin K2 - which study participants most frequently got through cheese - was linked to lower risk

or lung cancers, of whom 458 died during the study period.

In general, the researchers found, the one quarter with the highest intakes of vitamin K2 were 28 percent less likely to have died of any one of the cancers than the one-quarter of men and women with the lowest intakes of the vitamin. That was with factors like age, weight, exercise habits, smoking and consumption of certain other nutrients, like fiber and calcium, taken into account.

Of the one-quarter of study participants who got the least vitamin K2, 156 -- or 2.6 percent -- died of one of the four cancers. That was true of 1.6 percent of participants with the highest intakes of the vitamin from food.

When researchers looked at the cancer types individually, there was no clear link between either form of vitamin K and breast cancer or colon cancer. However, greater consumption of vitamin K2 was linked to lower risks of developing or dying from lung cancer -- a disease for which smoking is the major risk factor -- or of developing prostate cancer.

Of the one-quarter of study participants with the lowest vitamin K2 intakes, 47 -- or 0.8 percent -- developed lung cancer, versus 0.4 percent of the one-quarter who got the most vitamin K2 in their diets.

When it came to prostate cancer, there were 111 cases among the one-quarter of men with the lowest vitamin K2 intakes, and 65 cases in the group with the highest consumption.

In lab research, researchers point out, the vitamin has been shown to inhibit cancer cell growth and promote apoptosis -- a process by which abnormal cells kill themselves off.

Mark Ariel Editor-in-Chief



### Is this your idea of a healthy heart?



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### **FLASH**

### Kids Everywhere Too Sedentary

American kids aren't the only ones being couch potatoes these days, according to new study of more than 70,000 young teens from 34 countries. From Argentina to Zambia, Regina Guthold of the World Health Organization in Geneva and her colleagues found, most kids aren't getting enough exercise, while nearly a third are sedentary. And while thoughts of the "third world" may bring to mind long walks to school and heavy physical labor for children, this isn't what Guthold and her team found. "With regards to physical activity levels, we did not find much of a difference between poor and rich countries." the researcher told Reuters Health.



#### CURRY INGREDIENT SHOWS PROMISE AGAINST LIVER DAMAGE

A compound found in the common curry spice turmeric appears to delay the liver damage that eventually causes cirrhosis, scientists said last month. In a study published in Gut, a British Medical Journal title, Austrian scientists found that feeding the compound curcumin to mice reduced the types of inflammation that can cause liver cell damage, blockage and scarring. Some studies have indicated it can suppress cancer tumors and that people who eat lots of curry may be less prone to the disease, although curcumin loses its anti-cancer attributes quickly when it is ingested.

### AGEING GENE LINKED TO IMMUNITY

British scientists studying the genetics of ageing said last month that experiments on laboratory worms showed that a specific gene is strongly linked to lifespan, immunity and disease resistance. Since the gene, called DAF-16 in worms, is found in many animals and in humans, the finding could open up new ways to affect ageing, immunity and resistance in humans, the scientists said.

### Being Overweight UPS STROKE RISK



B

Excess weight increases stroke risk, a new study including nearly 2.3 million people confirms. And the heavier a person is, the greater their risk. "Being obese (but indeed even just overweight) puts an individual at significantly higher risk of ischemic stroke,

with a serious possibility of permanent disability and reduced life expectancy," researchers said.

#### Earlier Diabetes Screening Worthwhile

It's currently recommended that people be screened for type 2 diabetes starting at age 45, particularly if they are overweight. But a new study suggests that it would be worthwhile to start type 2 diabetes screening earlier - between the ages of 30 and 45. Sequential screening for type 2 diabetes is cost effective when started between the ages of 30 and 45 years and repeated every 3 to 5 years, researchers conclude in a report published last month.

#### Moderate Drinking May Slow Arthritis Progression

Some studies have suggested that moderate drinkers have a lower risk of developing rheumatoid arthritis, and now new findings link the habit to a slower progression of the joint disease. In a study that followed 2,900 adults with rheumatoid arthritis (RA), Swiss researchers found that light-to-moderate drinkers showed slower progression in their joint damage compared with non-drinkers. Heavy drinkers, on the other hand, showed the greatest progression.



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ANTHEM

#### CONSUMER GROUP SUES CALIFORNIA HEALTH INSURER

**By Steve Gorman** 

onsumer advocates filed a class-action suit against Anthem Blue Cross last month, accusing California's largest for-profit health insurer of illegally using drastic rate hikes to force customers into inferior health plans.

Anthem's plan to boost its individual premiums by as much as 39 percent has spawned inquiries by state regulators and congressional committees. The White House and Democrats on Capitol Hill also have seized on Anthem's proposed rate hikes in seeking to bolster support for a renewed drive to overhaul the nation's health care system.

The lawsuit in California claims Anthem violated state law by closing certain blocks of its individual health plans to new members without offering comparable coverage to policyholders who opted to remain.

Over time, the pool of older, sicker customers who choose to stay end up trapped in the closed policies, prevented by pre-existing medical conditions from finding affordable plans elsewhere and subjected to rising rates until finally forced to accept lesser insurance or to drop coverage altogether. If they do switch, it is often to plans with fewer benefits, higher deductibles or both, the suit says.

"Blue Cross has a gun to our heads," Mary Feller of San Rafael, Calif., one of the named plaintiffs in the suit filed in Ventura County Superior Court by the advocacy group Consumer Watchdog on behalf of policyholders.

"We could either stay with our old coverage or switch to a new policy with much lower benefits. What Blue Cross did not tell us was that staying with our better policy would mean a 39 percent rate increase," Feller said in a statement announcing the classaction complaint.

There was no immediate comment from the insurance company, or from the state Department of Managed Health Care, which regulates Anthem Blue Cross policies. But industry execu-

"The lawsuit claims Anthem violated state law by closing certain blocks of its individual health plans to new members without offering comparable coverage to policyholders who opted to remain"

tives have said climbing premiums reflect soaring medical costs.

Since 1993 California law has required insurers to protect individual policyholders from being caught in circumstances the industry refers to as a "death spiral," the suit says.

Insurers must either offer customers of closed plans a comparable alternative or pool the risk of those individuals with customers in policies that remain open in order to minimize their premium hikes, the suit says.

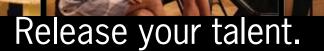
About 800,000 Californians hold health insurance policies with Anthem Blue Cross, accounting for the biggest share of some 2 million people with individual coverage in the state, said Jerry Flanagan, health care policy director for Consumer Watchdog.

By comparison, health maintenance organizations (HMOs) make up the bulk of California health plans, covering some 21 million patients. But individual policies are often the only option for those who are self-employed or do not receive health care coverage through their jobs.

The lawsuit, Feller and Freed vs. Anthem Blue Cross, Case No. 56-2010-00368587-CU-BT-SIM, seeks unspecified restitution for the plaintiffs and a court order barring future alleged violations of the state health and safety code.



### Ron Burrus



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Calcium may offer unique longevity benefit: study

#### etting a bit more calcium

in your diet could help you live longer, new research suggests. Swedish researchers found that men who consumed the most calcium in food were 25 percent less likely to die over the

FEATURE

next decade than their peers who took in the least calcium from food. None of the men took calcium supplements. The findings are in line with previous research linking

higher calcium intake with lower mortality in both men and women, the researchers point out in a report in the American Journal of Epidemiology.

While many researchers have looked at calcium and magnesium intake and the risk of chronic disease, less is known about the association between consumption of these nutrients in food and mortality.

To investigate, Dr. Joanna Kaluza of the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm and her colleagues looked at more than 23,000 Swedish men who were 45 to 79 years old at the study's outset and were followed for 10 years. All had reported on their diet at the beginning of the study. During follow-up, about 2,358 died.

The top calcium consumers had a 25 percent lower risk of dying from any cause and a 23 percent lower risk of dying from heart disease during follow-up relative to men that had the least amount of calcium in their diet. Calcium intake didn't significantly influence the risk of dying from cancer.

Men in the top third based on their calcium intake were getting nearly 2,000 milligrams a day, on average, compared to about 1,000 milligrams for men in the bottom third. The US Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) for calcium intake is 1,000 milligrams for men 19 to 50 years old and 1,200 milligrams for men 50 and over.

"Intake of calcium above that recommended daily may reduce all-cause mortality," Kaluza and her colleagues conclude.

Calcium could influence mortality risk in many ways, they note, for example by reducing blood pressure, cholesterol, or blood sugar levels. For the men in the study, the main sources of calcium in the diet were milk and milk products and cereal products.

BY PATRICK TSAKUDA

In contrast to calcium, there was no relationship between magnesium consumption and overall mortality or deaths from cancer or heart disease. Study participants' intakes ranged from around 400 milligrams per day to around 525 milligrams; the RDA for magnesium is 420 milligrams for men 31 and older.

This analysis, the researchers say, may have found no effect for magnesium because all of the men in the study seemed to be getting enough of the mineral in their diet. "Further studies are needed in other populations with lower dietary magnesium intakes to address this issue," they say.

Future research should also look into calcium and magnesium intake from drinking water, they add, which can be a significant source of these minerals.

#### "Top calcium consumers had a 25 percent lower risk of dying from any cause"



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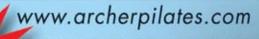
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### **BRIEFS**

#### HIGH-FIBER DIET LUNG BENEFIT

People who get enough fiber in their diets, particularly from whole grains, may have a lower risk of developing chronic lung disease than



those who eat few highfiber foods, a new study finds. When the researchers accounted for a number of other factors -- including smoking, age, weight and exercise habits -- the group with the highest fiber intake still had a one-third lower risk of COPD than the group that consumed the least fiber.

#### DIET MAY CURB BREAST CANCER RISK

Diets high in vegetables, fruits and soy might cut the risk of developing breast cancer by 30 percent, new research suggests. Researchers noticed a trend of "decreasing breast cancer risk with increasing intake of a vegetable-fruit-soy dietary pattern" in the 34,000 Chinese women studied. "There's usually a bad food pattern of meat and lots of starch and saturated fat. And then there's the good pattern -- a prudent pattern in our case -- the vegetable-fruit-soy pattern," researchers said.

### Wine May Help Women Keep Weight In Check

**Display to moderate alcohol consumption,** Light to moderate alcohol consumption, especially red wine, is not only good for a woman's heart, it's also good for her waistline, according to a recent study.

The study started out with nearly 20,000 trim middle-aged and older women. Over time, women who drank alcohol in moderation put on less weight and were less apt to become overweight compared to non-drinkers. This was true even after taking into account various lifestyle and dietary factors that might influence a woman's weight.

#### Red wine seemed best at keeping weight in check, but white wine, beer and spirits also had some benefit.

"Our study results showed that middle-aged and older women who have normal body weight initially and consume light-to-moderate amount of alcohol could maintain their drinking habits without gaining more weight compared with similar women who did not drink any alcohol," researchers said.

Many prior studies have suggested that moderate drinking -- usually defined as a drink or two a day -- can be a healthy habit, particularly with regard to heart health, while heavy drinking can harm health.in the blood. Consistently high sugar levels define diabetes.

### MEDITERRANEAN DIET TIED TO FERTILITY SUCCESS

www.new.who closely adhere to a Mediterranean-style diet rich in vegetables, vegetable oils and fish may have a higher likelihood of becoming pregnant after infertility treatment, a new study suggests. Researchers in the Netherlands found that among 161 couples undergoing fertility treatment at their center, women whose eating habits most closely matched the traditional Mediterranean diet were 40 percent more likely to become pregnant than those with the least Mediterranean-like diets. The study, reported in the journal Fertility and Sterility, does not prove that the diet itself boosts the success of fertility treatment. The study was "observational" -- where the researchers

asked couples about their usual diets, separated them into groups based on their diet patterns, then followed the groups' outcomes after fertility treatment. Such studies cannot prove cause-and-effect. However, the findings point to a possible role for diet in fertility treatment success. al" -- where the researchers

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### >> FEATURE

## **FUTURE**<sup>5</sup>MEDICINE

Some experts say the world is on the cusp of a "golden age" of genomics

rancis Collins, who helped map the human genome, did not get around to having his own genes analyzed until last summer. And he was surprised by what he learned.

Collins has a predisposition for type 2 diabetes,

something he had never suspected. The lanky, former director of the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) discovered this through tests offered by Navigenics, 23andMe and DecodeMe • companies that charge customers a few hundred dollars for a peek at their genetic makeup.

"I signed up for all three because I wanted to see if they gave the same answer," he said. "They all agreed my diabetes risk is higher."

Armed with that information, he eventually lost 25 pounds. But as a rule, he doesn't consider such tests especially useful • at least not yet. "Admittedly, right now your family history may be your best bet and it doesn't cost anything," he said. And so it goes in the fledgling genome field.

Some experts say the world is on the cusp of a "golden age" of genomics, when a look at the DNA code will reveal your risk of cancer, diabetes or heart disease, and predict which drugs will work for you. Yet the \$3 billion international Human Genome Project, whose first phase was completed a decade ago, has not led to a single blockbuster diagnosis or product.

To be sure, there have been some tantalizing glimpses:

• A personalized blood test can tell whether a patient's cancer has spread or come back. Dr. Bert Vogelstein of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and colleagues found stretches of DNA in colon and breast tumors with extra DNA copies, or fused-together chromosomes.

2. A gene-based test called Oncotype DX helps identify breast cancer patients who are not likely to benefit at all from chemotherapy.

**3** Dr. James Lupski of the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston studied his own entire DNA map and sequenced the genomes of family members, including his deceased grandfather, to diagnose the mutation causing his rare genetic nerve disease, called Charcot-Marie-Tooth syndrome.

4. Genetic tests are now able to pick out poor responders to Plavix, or clopidogrel, a common life-saving anti-clotting drug.

**O** • A small start-up called Ion Torrent recently unveiled its new DNA sequencer. It's the size of a computer printer. It was a shock to researchers who had used rooms the size of a football field full of sequencers for the original human genome.

#### BY MAGGIE FOX, JULIE STEENHUYSEN AND BEN HI RSCHLER

Still, Collins describes this as low-hanging fruit. He says the hard work is only just beginning.

In a sense, the field is a victim of its own success. Companies are beating down the price of genetic sequencing, competing to make the machine that every biotech lab will have as standard equipment to sequence a person's entire genome on the spot. But all this genome sequencing is creating what current NHGRI director Dr. Eric Green calls a "tsunami of information" that is overloading the brains of scientists and the capacity of computers.

Paradoxically, this reflects the fact that people have relatively few actual genes, the stretches of DNA that instruct a cell to make a protein, or what Green refers to as "bricks and mortar." Humans have just 20,500 of them, compared with up to 30,000 for mice and 50,000 in rice. That was one of the big surprises from the Human Genome Project.

As a result, much of the most important information lies in what used to be called "junk DNA," which makes up two-thirds of the human genetic code.

"There is this dark matter of the genome that is lurking out there, waiting to be uncovered," says Collins.



#### GENES AND CANCER

For many cancer patients, a major fear is that their surgeon missed something and their cancer will grow back. The only way to tell now is to wait until tumors are big enough to be spotted by imaging machines.

That could soon change. A gene-based test that can search a patient's blood for tiny bits of DNA shed from tumors may soon give doctors an early warning that they may have missed something.

"That's only become possible through the advent of so-called next-generation sequencing technology," said Dr. Vogelstein, who is developing the blood test.

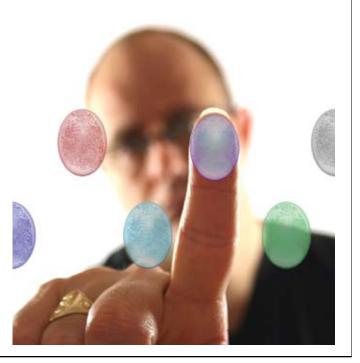
The test takes advantage of rapid advances in the technology to sequence whole genomes. The latest machines from companies like Illumina Inc and Life Technologies Corp can map out a patient's whole DNA code in just a few weeks for as little as \$5,000, a far cry from 13 years and \$3 billion it took Collins and his international collaborators to get the first human genome.

Vogelstein said the rapidly falling cost of genome sequencing means the blood test could be affordable enough to be on the market within two years. Before long, all cancer patients could have their tumors sequenced routinely to find the genetic defects that cause them to grow.

"Cancer is maybe the best disease to cut our teeth on," said Yale MedicalSchool geneticist Richard Lifton. "The reason for that is we know that cancer is largely a disease in changes of DNA sequence."

Matthew Meyerson of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Broad Institute of Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology said he is impressed by the pace of change. "The first cancer gene sequence was reported in 2008. There were probably 100 done last year. Maybe there will be many hundreds or even 1,000 this year," he said.

Lifton predicts that within the next two years, scientists will have the genetic sequence of every major human cancer. "Many of these will identify new genes that we had not previously known about with a role in cancer," he said. "Some of these will turn out to be incredibly important new drug targets."



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### **FITNESS**

### BRIEFS

#### CHRONIC AILMENT EXERCISE BENEFIT

Does heart disease or another chronic illness have you anxiety-ridden? Starting an exercise program may help calm your nerves, according to a review of published studies. The authors of the



review say they found "solid evidence" that exercise can curb anxiety in patients dealing with a chronic illness. such as heart and circulatory problems, fibromyalgia, arthritis and other pain conditions, mental health problems, cancer, as well as the breathing disorder COPD.

### MIX IT UP AT THE GYM — TO GET BEST RESULTS —

Breaking up your fitness routine is hard to do. But it's crucial for avoiding the bigger heartache of overuse injury, fitness experts say.

"People tend to do the same thing over and over again, without varying it, without taking adequate rest, without building slowly, and they end up with an overuse injury," said Geralyn Coopersmith, national manager for the Equinox Fitness Training Institute.

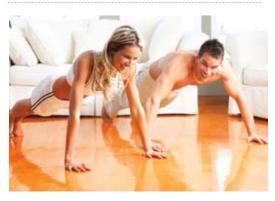
"Tendonitis, bursitis, fasciitis, these kinds of inflammations are pretty much guaranteed if you don't' vary your training," said Coopersmith, who oversees the training of 1400 personal trainers in 48 Equinox clubs nationwide.

Yet she concedes that even clients who complain of nagging aches and pains are loath to change their routine.

"Most people don't cross train enough," she said. "Maybe they've been doing yoga for years so their flexibility is great but ask them to hold a plank position and there's no core strength at all."

Fitness experts suggest varying routines and taking time to recover.

#### "People get terrified. They'll say, 'The treadmill made me lose weight.' Well, exercise made you lose weight. The treadmill was the modality. That doesn't' mean it's the only way or the best way," she explained



### Exercise **In The Heat** For **Weight Loss**

Exercisers who are trying to cut calories might want to take a run in the sun instead of a climatecontrolled gym, a small study suggests. The study, of 11 physically active men, found that participants ate less immediately after working out in hot conditions -about 97 degrees Fahrenheit -- than in a more moderate, 77-degree environment. On average, the men ate roughly 300 calories more when they worked out in moderate temperatures than when they rested in those same conditions. In contrast, when they exercised in the heat, they subse-



quently downed about the same amount of calories as they did after relaxing. "Our findings suggest that if you exercise in a warmer environment you will eat less in the subsequent meal," senior researcher Dr. Kym J. Guelfi, of the University of Western Australia's School of Sports Science, told Reuters Health in an email.

### WEIGHT LIFTING HELPS ARTHRITIS



#### Strength training can help ease pain and improve physical functioning in people with osteoarthritis

of the knee, a new review of current data confirms. Weak quadriceps muscles and out-of-balance joints can contribute to the development of osteoarthritis of the knee, researchers note. Given that resistance exercise can strengthen these muscles and restore more normal joint mechanics, they add, it should be beneficial to people suffering disability from degeneration in their knee joints.





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ne study shows that milk can help people lose weight. Another shows that tomato juice might prevent cancer and a third shows benefits to fizzy sodas.

But consumers should take those studies with a grain of salt, researchers report. If a study was industryfunded, it was far more likely to have a positive finding than if it was paid for by the government or an independent group, the researchers found.

"We are not singling out any industry or any particular study," said lead researcher Dr. David Ludwig of Children's Hospital Boston and Harvard University.

"Our first look shows evidence strongly suggestive of bias," Ludwig said in a telephone interview.

The study, published by the Public Library of Science online journal PLoS Medicine, echoes other findings that show industry-funded research on drugs is more likely to be favorable to the drugs than independent research.

Ludwig's team reviewed 111 studies on soft drinks, juice and milk that were published between 1999 and 2003.

"We chose beverages because they represent an area of nutrition that's very controversial, that's relevant to children, and involves a part of the food industry that is highly profitable and where research findings could have direct financial implications," Ludwig said.

Studies funded entirely by industry were four times to eight times more likely to be favorable to the financial interests of the sponsors than those paid for by other groups, the researchers found.

Of the 22 studies clearly identified as funded by companies or industry groups, just three, or 13.6 percent, had findings that were unfavorable to the beverage studied.

More than 38 percent of the independently funded studies were negative, the researchers found.

This "raises serious concerns that some food industries may distort the scientific record on diet and health," Martijn Katan, professor of nutrition at Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam, wrote in a commentary in the same journal.

Ludwig said the studies could be set up differently if they are funded by industry. Or it could be that sponsors choose not to publish studies that turn out unfavorable to their product, he said.

Researchers funded by industry may do rigorous work, but may choose to ask certain questions more likely to produce a result favorable to the product, Ludwig said.

"I don't blame researchers for this problem. I think that most are highly ethical and dedicated to science," Ludwig said.

He said the problem is that the government does not spend much money studying nutrition.

"Industry money becomes difficult to resist," he said. "Imagine ... you are facing the choice of accepting industry money or closing up shop."

Ludwig's study was paid for by his hospital and by the Charles H. Hood Foundation, a childhood health philanthropy.



#### **USE YOUR** HYPNOTIC MIND **AND LOSE**

**SPRING IS THE BEST** TIME TO TALK ABOUT WEIGHT LOSS. IT IS THE **TIME WHEN PUBLISHERS RELEASE DIET AND EXERCISE BOOKS.** 

hen talk shows interview weight loss experts; when people start paying attention to losing weight to renew themselves and look great in the summer fashion.

The truth is, diets don't work. This 33 billion dollar industry has only a 2% success rate. Hypnosis has a 68% success ratio. Very much because of the lowfat craze of the 90s, 2/3rds of Americans are now overweight and 25% are morbidly obese (that means their fat

can kill them). Type II Diabetes is on

WFICHT

the rise and the repercussions of overweight are looking us in the eye.

Most overweight people have had their stomachs stapled, their jaws wired shut, they have undergone fasts, fad diets, gone to Weight Watchers, Jenny Craig and finally they realized that what they need to do is change their eating habits, make better food choices, exercise, etc. THIS IS NOT NEW INFORMATION - obesity and nutrition experts agree that these are the changes to be made. Then, why aren't most people able to make Why continue to go on fad them?

diets that make them feel deprived, eat more and gain more weight?

If you are getting the same negative

results, you are probably unconsciously running old negative programs and reinforcing them with the same negative habits about food; the same body fat continues to return after you lose it. Instead change your internal dialogue using Hypnosis. You will be able to live your life while releasing the weight as Hypnosis is a gentle process by which a person can change behaviors at a much deeper level then just will power.

Neuroscientists have discovered that we have the capacity to create an infinite number of new neural connections in our brain. To transform your body you have to change your mind and everything else will follow suit.

If losing weight was easy nobody would have that problem.



Maria Olga Paiz from Solutions 2 Life, Inc. 323.839.0325 www.solutions-2-life.com.



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### BEAUTY REPORT

IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

### NOTES

VEWINE

MAKING LIGHT OF HOME GROOMING The National Physical Laboratory (NPL) in the UK recently assessed the light emitted by a home-use intense-pulsed light (IPL)



hair reduction system and confirmed that it is safe. This confirmation is important, as IPL devices must meet the necessary safety quidelines, to ensure users are protected in the case of accidental exposure to the human eye. IPL is mainly used to treat certain cosmetic conditions - it can remove unwanted body hair, reduce the appearance of surface veins, and generally improve skin's appearance. Traditionally delivered in specialist salons, the market has now grown to include units that can be used at home.

#### CHEST DEFORMITY CORRECTION SURGERY

A new minimally invasive surgery to correct a chest wall deformity -- often known as pigeon chest -- was demonstrated at an international conference last month. The new surgical technique was developed in South America by surgeons trained in a minimally invasive technique to correct pectus excavatum, a related condition that causes the chest to protrude inward.

### Medical Device Alert To Breast Implant Surgeons

he Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) in the UK is advising breast implant surgeons not to use silicone gel-filled breast implants manufactured by the French company Poly Implant Prothese (PIP).

The MHRA was informed by the French medical device regulatory authority (AFSSAPS) that it has suspended the company's marketing, distribution and export of these products.

AFSSAPS recently carried out an inspection of PIP's manufacturing plant and found that most implants manufactured since 2001 have been filled with an unauthorized silicone gel which differs from the originally approved material.

The MHRA is investigating, in collaboration with AFSSAPS, whether the unapproved gel affects the safety of these implants. AFSSAPS is carrying out tests to establish the level of risk.

The MHRA has issued a Medical Device Alert to breast implant surgeons and healthcare professionals.

Director of Devices Clinical, Dr Susanne Ludgate said, "Clinicians should not implant these devices and they should quarantine any stock.

"Patients who have concerns about their PIP silicone gel filled breast implants should contact their breast implant surgeon.

"Once we receive further information about the safety of these products, we will provide further advice on patient management, as necessary, when more information is available."



### Babies Severe Cleft Palates Breakthrough

cientists working on a treatment for babies born with cleft palates have made a promising breakthrough and the first clinical trials are planned for early next year. The preliminary results on a hydrogel material show treatment for severe cleft palates could be carried out without the need for complex surgery. Cleft palates are currently repaired by surgically repositioning the available palatal mucosa, the tissue structure at the roof of the mouth, in order to cover the gap in the palate. However, if the cleft defect is too wide there may be insufficient local tissue available to close the gap without undertaking quite radical surgery. It is these severe cases that can cause future complications for infants as they develop into adults particularly with speech and facial growth problems.





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### FEATURE

## STEMCELL HAND DE HIVENATION

### HAND REJUVENATION USING YOUR BODY'S OWN STEM CELLS

#### **BY NATHAN NEWMAN, MD**

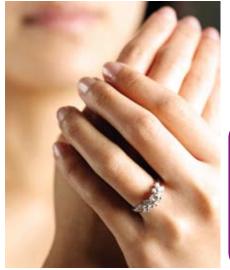


tem cells from your own body fat have the power to restore and renew the youthful appearance of the face and body. Traditional face lift procedures could not address the signs of aging on the

hands and therefore the hands became the "tell-tale" sign of age. The Stem Cell Lift(tm) procedure is the ideal way to correct the hollowed, skeletal, wrinkled skin on the hands to match the youthful and rested look of a stem cell face lift.

#### THE AGING HAND

Just as on the face, the volume and fatty



cushion that is present beneath the skin of the hands is lost over time. This results in bony looking hands with undesirably protruding veins under the skin. Sun exposure causes skin discoloration and wrinkles which also give an aged look to the hands.

#### STEM CELL HAND LIFT

The Stem Cell Lift(tm) is a procedure that can be done under local anesthesia in a procedure room. A mini-liposuction procedure is done on any area of the body that the patient chooses to have excess fat removed from. The stem cells found in this fat are then concentrated to increase the number of stem cells that will be injected to rejuvenate the hands. The stem cell enriched fat is then used to sculpt the hands using specially a designed instrument. The results are immediate. There is some swelling and soreness in the areas treated that subside with in days. It takes the newly introduced cells about 3 months to completely integrate into and become a natural part of the body area that they have been placed.

#### ADVANTAGES OF STEM CELL LIFT

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   NO GENERAL ANESTHETIC LOCAL ANESTHESIA
   IS USED.
- IT GIVES YOU A REFRESHED BUT NATURAL LOOK RATHER THAN A TIGHT, PLASTIC APPEARANCE. • THERE ARE NO VISIBLE SCARS.
- QUICK RECOVERY TIME.

#### BEFORE



AFTER



- MINIMAL OR NO PAIN.
   MORE ECONOMICAL.
   LONG LASTING NATURAL RESULTS.
   MAY BE USED TO SCULPT ALL DESIRED AREAS OF
- MAY BE USED TO SCULPT ALL DESIRED AREAS OF THE FACE AND BODY IN ONE PROCEDURE USING YOUR OWN STEM CELLS.
- PROCEDURE FALLS WITHIN FDA GUIDELINES.

#### OTHER TREATMENT OPTIONS

Other materials have been used to try and rejuvenate the hands. Fillers like Sculptra, Radiesse, Juvederm, etc. are not permanent, may look unnatural and may cause undesirable reactions in the body. For the skin discoloration and other sun related changes, lasers, peels and other modalities may be used with the Stem Cell Lift(tm) to give you a natural looking, youthful hand, that matches the results on your face.



#### **Dr. Nathan Newman** is world renowned for his advanced cosmetic surgery procedures.

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Actress-comedian Rachael Harris on sensible eating, cheating with chocolate and self restraint

> BY MARK ARIEL PHOTOGRAPH BY ROB MCEWAN



mart, funny and attractive, it's virtually impossible not to fall in love with actress-comedian Rachael Harris. You've seen her great comedic acting skills in actor-director Christopher Guest's mockumentaries, you've watched her poke good natured fun at other celebs on VH1's I Love the '80s, I Love the '90s, and Best Week Ever, you've seen her hilarious stints on the Daily Show, and somehow - in your head - you feel like she's one of your best friends.

Born in Worthington, Ohio, Harris moved to LA, where she studied and majored in theater. She then performed with the Los Angeles improvisation troupe, Groundlings.

She debuted on television in a 1993 episode of SeaQuest DSV.

After an appearance on Star Trek: Voyager in 1997, Harris went on to a recurring role in The WB's Sister, Sister. Other television credits include a stint as a correspondent for The Daily Show's 2002-2003 season, as well as roles on The Sarah Silverman Program, Reno 911!, The West Wing, Friends, Curb Your Enthusiasm, Monk, and Desperate Housewives.

Harris played the supporting role of Kevyn Shecket, Kirstie Alley's personal makeup artist, on the Showtime series Fat Actress. She played Cooper in the ABC sitcom Notes from the Underbelly.

Her film credits include roles in Best in Show, A Mighty Wind, For Your Consideration, Starsky & Hutch, Kicking & Screaming, and Daddy Day Care. In the 2009 comedy The Hangover she plays Melissa, girlfriend to Ed Helms. In 2010, she played Greg's mom in the film Diary of a Wimpy Kid.

In the health arena, Harris follows the "everything in moderation" mode. "While I don't follow a specific diet, I try to follow a few basic rules," Harris tells **LA Health News.** "I eat lean protein, veggies, and light carbs... I don't believe in eliminating carbs completely from your diet, but I keep the intake low. For example today for lunch, I had a mixed green salad, breast of chicken, sautéed veggies and a little bit of rice. I try to keep it as healthy as possible, especially if I'm on set," Harris reveals. However, she explains, "I don't deprive myself of anything, if I feel like chocolate, I'll have a few pieces. The trick is to keep it to only a few pieces. I'm pretty good with self-restraint."

#### **RACHAEL HARRIS:** » TIPS TO **OVERCOME STRESS**

### RUN

I try to run 6 days a week, wherever I am. Usually for about 30 minutes, in the morning before work. It clears my head and is great for relieving stress.



Sometimes the best thing is to sit down, and breathe. Slowly inhale through your nose, counting to five in your head. Let the air out from your mouth, counting to eight in your head as it leaves your lungs. Repeat a few times.

#### FRIENDS Stay connected with friends. When I'm feeling stressed I call a friend and ask how their day is going. Listening to what's happening in someone else's life is a good way to overcome any momentary anxiety you may have in your own life.







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### **ENVIRONMENT**

### Air Pollution May Hinder IVF Success

#### >> Among women trying to conceive through in-vitro

fertilization (IVF), those exposed to greater air pollution may have a somewhat lower chance of success, a new study suggests.

The findings add to evidence that air quality may have subtle effects on reproduction. Several studies have linked exposure to air pollution during pregnancy to an increased risk of preterm delivery and low birthweight.

Researchers focused on IVF patients because they would know precisely when each woman ovulated, when fertilization occurred and when embryos were implanted in the uterus. That allowed them to look at the relationship between air pollution levels and each step of the pregnancy process.

Of the whole study group, 36 percent of the women had a baby following their first IVF treatment. Overall, researchers found that those odds dipped by 20 percent when the NO2 levels near a woman's home were 0.01 parts per million above average at the time she was taking medication to spur ovulation.

Similar effects were seen when the researchers focused on NO2 levels near the IVF center at the time of egg retrieval and fertilization, and levels near the women's homes after the embryos had been implanted.

### **CHEMICAL EXPOSURE BRAIN RISK**

Exposure to industrial chemicals in the womb or early in life can impair brain development but only a handful are controlled to protect children, researchers said. "Only a few substances, such as lead and mercury, are controlled with the purpose of protecting children," investigators said. "The 200 other chemicals that are known to be toxic to the human brain are not regulated," they added. Researchers called for a precautionary approach and said strict regulations should be enforced for any substance that is shown to have a toxic effect.

### CLIMATE CHANGE MAY EXTEND ALLERGY SEASON

Sneezing, congestion, and runny noses from hay fever may be lasting longer because climate change may be extending pollen seasons, doctors in Italy said. Pollen seasons as well as the amount of pollen in the air progressively increased during a 26-year study in Italy, the doctors reported. The team at Genoa University recorded pollen counts, how long pollen seasons lasted and sensitivity to five types of pollen in the Bordighera region of Italy from 1981 to 2007. "By studying a well-defined geographical region, we observed that the progressive increase of the average temperature has prolonged the duration of the pollen seasons of some plants and, consequently, the overall pollen load," researchers said. About 25 million Americans, nearly half of them children, had hay fever in the past year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ENVIRON-MENTALLY TRIGGERED HEART ATTACKS

xtreme tempera tures and heavy air pollution boost heart attack risk, according to a new study. And on days when the air is extra dirty and the temperature is unusually hot or cold, the effects are likely to be particularly bad, researchers said. Cold temperatures seemed to have a greater effect on heart attack risk in areas that were warmer, on average, researchers note, suggesting that people living in colder areas may be better adapted to dips in temperature.

researchers said.

30 LA HEALTH NEWS APRIL 2010

lahealthnews.com



### Unleash Your Greatest Power Survive or thrive... you choose

#### BY MYKE ZYKOFF HHP, C.HT.

you know the majority of your thoughts and actions are habits? Did you know that many people take their lives for granted? Would you believe that most people are merely surviving their daily experience? All true.

The core of being human is surviving. Underneath all of our thoughts, desires and feelings is our primitive mind. When push comes to shove, we drop into autopilot to protect ourselves. This is what's commonly referred to as "fight or flight." The greater the threat, the faster we adapt.

Adapting is a common trait amongst every living species. Again, it's all about survival.

We need to blend in with our environments to feel safe. As human beings we tend to do this without even knowing. But we also do this out of convenience.

To make our lives easier, we tend to mimic the function of our primitive minds. We take ourselves out of thought as quickly as we can. We seek to automate. We create habits.

Habitual actions free up the mind to take on more activity. The more activity we take on the more habits we create. The more habits we create, the more we take for granted. When was the last time you appreciated the water that you drink, let alone bathe in? Over

time our lives get so automated we reach a point where we feel we no longer have choice in our behavior. We'll say, "It's just the way it is" and revert back into survival mode.

Take a moment to STOP. Think about what you're about to do over the next ten minutes. Make it a point to acknowledge why you're going to do it. Disengage autopilot over the next twenty-four hours. Everything you now do habitually at one time required you to actively choose. Give yourself the opportunity to remember the importance of these choices and you'll reconnect with your life.

Your greatest power is your ability to choose. Use it wisely and you will redesign your life around your greatest strengths. Live on purpose. You're meant to thrive.



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### ALTERNATIVE

### POSSIBLE MULTIVITAMIN BREAST CANCER LINK

Many people take multivitamins in the hopes of thwarting disease, but a new study finds that older women who use multivitamins may be more likely than non-users to develop breast cancer.

The study, reported in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, points only to an association between multivitamin



#### VITAMIN D FLU, ASTHMA BENEFIT

n a study of Japanese schoolchildren, vitamin D supplements taken during the winter and early spring helped prevent seasonal flu and asthma attacks. THE RESEARCHERS FOUND THAT PEOPLE TAKING VITAMIN D WERE THREE TIMES LESS LIKELY TO **REPORT COLD AND FLU** SYMPTOMS. The vitamin D3 supplement (1,200 international units daily) used in the study is more readily absorbed by the body and more potent than vitamin D2, or ergocalciferol, the form often found in multivitamins.

use and breast cancer. It does not prove that the supplements directly contribute to the disease.

However, the researchers say, it's biologically plausible that multivitamins could have such an effect, and the potential link "merits further investigation."

Researchers found that women who reported multivitamin use at the study's start were 19 percent more likely than non-users to develop breast cancer. That was with factors like age, family history of breast cancer, weight, fruit and vegetable intake, and exercise, smoking and drinking habits taken into account.

Still, the large majority of multivitamin users did not develop breast cancer during the study period. Of 9,017 users, 293 were diagnosed with the disease, as were 681 women among the 26,000-plus who did not use multivitamins.

Until more is known, a woman's best bet is to get her vitamins and minerals from a well-balanced diet rather than pills, researchers advised.

## MAY HELP LIFT

Massage therapy may help relieve symptoms of depression, a new review of the medical literature hints. The authors of the review,



however, acknowledge difficulties with research on the effects of massage, including the fact that it's impossible to "blind" study participants or care providers to whether a person is receiving massage or a comparison treatment. Nevertheless, they say there is "good evidence to suggest that massage therapy is an effective treatment of depression." Depression is a huge public health problem, and treatment is often inadequate, researchers note in their report. While massage can ease stress and tension and may have emotional benefits, the use of massage therapy in depressed patients is "controversial," the investigators note, and "there is no qualitative review of the treatment effect of massage therapy in depressed patients." "Further well-designed and longer follow-up studies, including accurate outcome measures, are needed," they conclude. ACUPUNCTURE EASES PREGNANCY BLUES



pregnant women with depression, a couple months of acupuncture might help reduce the severity of their symptoms, a small study hints. **Researchers found** that after eight weeks, women who received depression-specific acupuncture were more likely to have a treatment response -- meaning the severity of their symptoms fell by at least half and they no longer met all of the criteria for diagnosing major depression.

### Beware Of The Dietary Supplement Safety Act of 2010

hen you understand what Sen. McCain's proposed Dietary Supplement Safety Act is underneath its surface agenda, this bill should cause great concern amongst all freedom-loving Americans and health conscious individuals as the bill, if passed, would greatly limit American's access to health and nutritional supplements including vitamins, minerals, amino acids, and even herbs.

Allegedly, the bill for the Dietary Supplement Safety Act (the title in and of itself is very misleading) is in response to illegal steroids sold to and used by major league baseball players under the guise of "dietary supplements" (which would make most people think the bill would be beneficial as it would eliminate access to steroids under the guise of dietary supplements), but if you read the entire obviously F.D.A (Food and Drug Administration) and Big Pharma-sponsored bill that will clearly end American citizens right to have access to low-priced health and nutritional supplements, the bill mentions absolutely nothing about steroids or steroid use. Absolutely nothing at all! No law can protect the very thing that allegedly prompts the law to be passed in the first place if the very thing itself (e.g. steroids) is not even mentioned in the law.

How are you going to sponsor a bill to help prevent steroid use amongst professional athletes (or anyone else for that matter) and the bill doesn't even mention the words "steroid," "steroids," or "steroid use?" This lets you know the true agenda - that it has absolutely nothing at all to do with steroids, but instead has to do with natural supplements that are helping to improve the health of American citizens.

The bill is clearly designed to implement Codex Alimentarius on American soil and give the F.D.A. carte blanche freedom to arbitrarily ban any health supplement it chooses to ban under the banner that it (supplement) is unsafe, even if there are no facts to support said claim of unsafety.

It's no secret that the FDA is obviously in the back pockets of the pharmaceutical industry and the two are working together laboriously to further deprive American citizens of rights constitutionally secured so that pharmaceutical companies will have no competition from the alternative health field.

I implore all freedom loving and health conscious Americans to contact your Congressmen (and women) and adamantly oppose this bill.



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-RAYMOND, rugby player(62)

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### CALENDAR/APRIL

MON

#### KIDS 4 KIDS 5K RUN/WALK Sunday, April 25, 8am.

Nokia Theatre LA Live, 777 Chick Hearn Court, Los Angeles. For more info: 310-207-5330. Benefiting the Children's Cancer Research Fund, the Kids 4 Kids 5k RUN/WALK and All-Star Carnival was created in response to the incredible generosity of children wanting to help other children with cancer. The Kids 4 Kids RUN/ WALK empowers them to take immediate action to help find a cure while bringing together friends and family for a fun day of activity and entertainment. The All-Star Carnival includes a finish line entertainment, rides and game booths staffed by celebrities and athletes.

#### DOWN AND DIRTY NATIONAL MUD RUN SERIES Sunday, April 25, 8am.

Castaic Lake State Recreation Area. For more info: www.downanddirtymudrun.com-Support our Troops in this military style 5K or 10K off-road run complete with obstacles, water crossings and mud, mud and more mud! Postrace BBQ and an awesome Tech Tee are included with registration.

#### 2010 OC MARATHON Sunday, May 2, 6:30am.

401 Newport Center Drive, Newport Beach. For more info: www.ocmarathon.com A world class running event featuring the best the OC has to offer.

#### **ONGOING EVENTS**

#### **DIANETICS SEMINAR**

Every Sat and Sun, 9am-6pm, both days. Church of Scientology Celebrity Centre, 5930 Franklin Ave, Los Angeles. For more info call: 323-960-3100. Learn the basic principles of the technology that has made dramatic and permanent improvements to more than 20,000,000 people in more than 150 nations.

#### FREE YOGA & FITNESS SATURDAYS

Every Saturday. 11:30am. Sylmar Branch Library, 14561 Polk St., Sylmar. For more info visit:

yoga.viviti.com Beginners are welcome to try some easy yoga moves under the Big Screen during free Saturday



#### BREAST CANCER TREATMENT 2010 Tuesday, April 13, 730pm-9pm.

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Sunday, April 18, 10:30am

The concert will be held in the

15928 Ventura Blvd, Ste 116,

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event & help find a cure to

Saturday, April 10, 8am.

www.sealbeachrun.com Run/Walk the prettiest course in

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Seal Beach Marina Community

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5/10K Run 5K Walk, 1K Kid's Fun Run

Center, 151 Marina Dr., Seal Beach.

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For more info:

Ronald Readan UCLA Medical Center, Simms-Mann UCLA Center for Integrative Oncology, 757 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles. For more info: 310-794-6644. Sara Hurvitz, MD, UCLA Assistant Professor, medical oncologist, leader of the UCLA breast cancer clinical research program, discusses breast cancer and treatments.

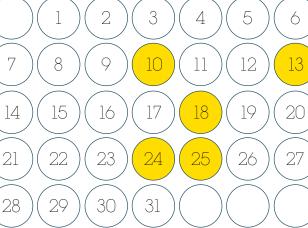
#### HERMOSA BEACH City Walk and Kids Races Sunday, April 18, 7am.

Hermosa Pier Plaza, 10 Pier Avenue, Hermosa Beach. For more info: www.hb5000.com Walk, run or race for the benefit of the Hermosa Beach Education Foundation. Between the 5000m, the City Walk, and the kids' races there is something for everyone.

#### AUTISM SPEAKS Whole Planet EXPO Sat., April 24, 9:30am-6pm.

Highland Hall Waldorf School, 17100 Superior St. Northridge.

The Whole Children, Whole Planet Expo is the premier natural parenting and family expo that introduces and educates families, professionals and friends about the benefits of sustainable living practices, non-toxic products, organic foods, holistic medicine and enrichment learning programs. Free workshops throughout the day, an Enrichment Village with hands-on projects for kids, exhibitors, food, prizes, samples and a main stage with fabulous entertainment - for all ages. TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN





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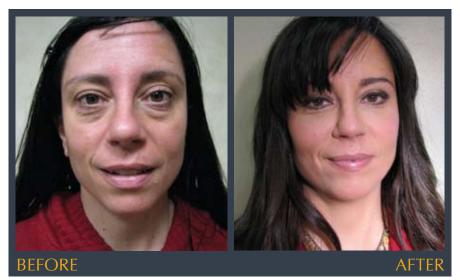
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