

UCLA Center for World Health



UCLA Health

Saving lives and
improving health
by investing in people



Our vision

To heal humankind through shared knowledge and compassion, and to make a difference in people's lives throughout the world.

Our mission

To improve the health of people and communities around the world through education, research, and service, and to guide the next generation of leaders to use their vision, talent, and commitment to transform the practice of world health to make a sustainable difference.



Humanistic

We advocate for human rights for all people and the freedom to reach our full potential together.

Worldwide

We work in lower-, middle-, and upper-income regions alike to eradicate the world's disparities.

Sustainable

We create deeply sustainable initiatives that ensure a lifetime of well-being.

Diverse

We insist on diverse cultural perspectives and interdisciplinary expertise.

Horizontal

We pose questions and communicate in ways that are conversational and inclusive, not didactic or hierarchical.

Innovative

We are a leading academic institution that works collaboratively to pioneer ways to make the world better.

Our programs

Global health education programs

Guiding and sustaining leaders

To improve world health by nurturing a new generation of leaders, we provide clinical, research, and humanitarian training for medical students, residents, fellows, and faculty at UCLA and across the globe, enabling them to engage health challenges worldwide. Our programs include opportunities for fourth-year medical students, as well as residents in Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Ophthalmology, and Surgery, to participate in patient care in China, Ghana, India, Peru, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, and Thailand. We also host medical students, residents, and faculty from institutions around the world who come to UCLA to learn and to perfect their skills.

Transformative scientific solutions for world health problems

Collaborations for innovation

We collaborate with institutions around the world for innovative interdisciplinary research to address the most pressing health issues facing today's world, including infectious diseases such as HIV, as well as the growing epidemics of diabetes, cancer, and heart disease. In partnership with the UCLA AIDS Institute and Center for AIDS Research, we provide pilot grants to launch cutting-edge HIV research projects in countries heavily affected by the epidemic. In addition, we are initiating programs to address virally induced cancers and noncommunicable diseases in low- and middle-income countries, and we collaborate with institutions in Europe and Asia on medical research of global significance.

International clinical initiatives

Strengthening human capital

To develop a health workforce that is skilled and patient-centered, we work closely with partner physicians to ensure they are skilled in providing high-quality, up-to-date, and sustainable care that addresses local health problems. Our projects include a collaboration with clinics in Central America to improve the surgical outcomes of children with neurological disease, and to build the capacity of local surgeons and healthcare providers to provide world-class care to these children. We also receive USAID funding to strengthen health systems and improve clinical skills in southern Africa.



Photos: (Top Left and Right) Rob Stark Photography / (Bottom) Riccardo Gangale/AP Images

Technology solutions for connecting worldwide

Making human connections

To share global health solutions, we develop platforms aimed at connecting people. By linking students, faculty, patients, and advocacy groups, we help to form global networks committed to improving world health. We recently provided webcasts of cutting-edge surgical techniques from Los Angeles to locations around the world. We also are developing web-based classroom platforms in Latin America focused on capacity-building via UCLA's world-class education programs.

World health policy for real-world impact

Fulfilling the potential of science to make a difference

We conduct policy research and convene stakeholders to ensure that the highest-quality science and research translates into the best possible action on the ground. We aim to build cross-political collaborations to transform ideas into action by gathering together community leaders and policy makers, while engaging global citizens both within and outside academia. Examples include China, Malawi, and Mozambique, where we are actively involved in advancing guidelines and policies for improving preventive and clinical care in the fields of pediatrics and infectious diseases.

Our leadership

Thomas J. Coates, PhD

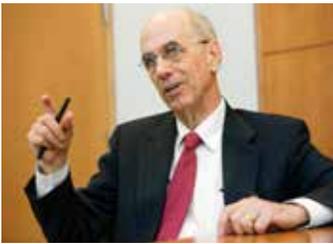
Director

In addition to directing the UCLA Center for World Health, Dr. Coates is Co-Director of the University of California Global Health Institute, which advances the mission of the 10-campus UC system to improve the lives of people in California and around the world. He is the Michael and Sue Steinberg Endowed Professor of Global AIDS Research within the Division of Infectious Diseases at UCLA. Dr. Coates co-founded the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at UCSF in 1986 and directed it from 1991 to 2003, and was the founding Executive Director of the UCSF AIDS Research Institute, leading it from 1996 to 2003, when he was recruited to UCLA. He was elected to the Institute of Medicine (IOM) in 2000 and serves on the IOM's Board on Global Health.



J. Thomas Rosenthal, MD

Co-Director



Dr. Rosenthal is Associate Vice Chancellor of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Chief Medical Officer for UCLA Health hospitals. He joined the faculty of the UCLA School of Medicine in 1986 as Director of Renal Transplantation; under his leadership, the Renal Transplant Program tripled in size while maintaining the highest graft survival results in the country. Dr. Rosenthal was named Executive Vice Chairman of the Department of Surgery and Vice Chairman of the Medical Faculty Board in 1990. He was appointed Director of the UCLA Medical Group in 1996, where he oversaw development of managed care services.

Photo: Otto Yang



Photo: Rob Stark Photography



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