



Orders put HIV trials at UCSD on hold

Federal funding
pullback could risk
decades of progress

By Paul Sisson
UNION-TRIBUNE

UC San Diego has paused at least five clinical trials designed to cure or control HIV after the National Institutes of Health issued guidance last week that new enrollments should be put on hold.

The nation’s foremost research funding agency told scientists “they should temporarily hold off on launching new studies that had not yet enrolled participants and that would not be complete by Nov. 30, 2027, when their current funding is set to expire,” according to The New York Times.

The NIH did not respond Friday to a request for a copy of the letter.

It is not the only delay involved in HIV research funding. The NIH has not yet renewed funding for four clinical trial networks that have long connected patients to investigational new drugs. Experts fear that if funding is not continued, a vital resource would be at risk because the networks have been used to test drugs and other treatments for many conditions — not just HIV.

UC San Diego participates in two of these networks.

The world’s largest and longest-running is ACTG, Advancing Clinical Therapeutics Globally, a consortium of 59

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‘Cooling off’ period in gun buys waived for deputies

Sheriff OKs over 200
requests; some staffers
granted several a day

By Jeff McDonald
UNION-TRIBUNE

After one of his captains was indicted for illegal gun sales in 2019, then-San Diego County Sheriff William Gore began cutting back his approval of waivers for deputies looking to avoid a state-mandated 10-day waiting period to buy personal firearms.

By the end of 2021, when former sheriff’s Capt. Marco Garmo was sent to prison after pleading guilty to federal weapons charges, Gore all year had signed only five gun letters, as the waivers are known.

But Sheriff Kelly Martinez, who won the 2022 election to succeed Gore, has approved hundreds of waivers for sheriff’s deputies since taking office, including granting multiple exemptions to the same people on the same day, records show.

The documents also show that sheriff’s deputies regularly purchase so-called off-roster guns — firearms that are not legally available for purchase by civilians.

Many of the weapons Garmo bought were off-roster guns he then sold to non-law enforcement buyers. The career lawman, who

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Waves break along The Strand in Oceanside during a high tide as the remnants of Tropical Storm Rachel moved through the region Sunday. Rain drenched the county, with 5.16 inches reported on Palomar Mountain to just under an inch at the San Diego airport. **K.C. ALFRED / U-T**

Tropical Storm Rachel swamps San Diego County

Beachside cottages hit by surf, protective berms eroded, water rescues triggered

By Gary Robbins,
Karen Kucher & Paul Sisson
UNION-TRIBUNE

Remnants of Tropical Storm Rachel hit San Diego County harder than expected before dawn Sunday, sending surf crashing into beachside cottages in Oceanside, flooding parts of Highway 101 near Carlsbad, and triggering several water rescues.

The quick-moving system also

knocked out power to more than 330 customers in the Otay Mesa-San Ysidro area, and significantly tore into the berm that protects the Del Mar Lifeguard headquarters. The Tijuana River estuary flooded a street in Imperial Beach.

The National Weather Service had forecast that roughly 1 inch of rain would fall in coastal cities and 2 to 3 inches would fall and drench inland mountains and valleys between late Saturday

night and early Sunday.

The outer ridge of Rachel surged ashore about 8 p.m.—earlier than anticipated — and let loose. By 12:30 p.m. Sunday, the system had dropped 5.16 inches on Palomar Mountain, 2.69 inches in eastern Oceanside, 2.11 inches in the Bay Ho neighborhood of San Diego, 1.75 inches in Carlsbad, and 1.36 inches at Camp Pendleton.

San Diego International Airport got 0.92 inches.

The weather service reported varying amounts of precipitation around the region: Julian, 3.04 inches; Otay Mountain, 2.99 inches; Poway, 2.69 inches; Ramona, 2.52 inches; Alpine, 2.30 inches; Fallbrook, 2.22 inches; Valley Center, 2.10 inches; Rancho Bernardo, 2.06 inches; San Diego Country Estates, 2.06 inches; Escondido, 1.81 inches; Campo, 1.81

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An injured man looks at his house that was destroyed Sunday in a Russian strike on Kharkiv, Ukraine. President Donald Trump said the two sides had agreed to an “energy ceasefire.” **ANDRII MARIENKO / AP**

Trump says Russia and Ukraine have accepted ‘energy ceasefire’

Zelenskyy claims
Moscow continues
to hit power plants

By Susie Blann, Elise Morton
& Collin Binkley
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Donald Trump said Sunday that Russia and Ukraine had agreed to an “energy ceasefire” in the 4½-year-old war, but he offered no details on it and Kyiv reported attacks by Moscow on energy sites after his statement.

Trump’s brief social media

post said only that the ceasefire took effect immediately, adding: “Do not break it!”

Moscow did not immediately comment. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that while his country “welcomed” the announcement by Trump as “good news for everyone,” Russia was still hitting energy infrastructure in Kyiv and in the city of Kharkiv.

“Unfortunately, Ukrainian skies have been infested with Russian ‘shaheds’ all day today,” he said in an evening address, referring to drones launched by Moscow. “There have been glide bomb strikes and strikes

on our energy infrastructure too. A power plant in Kharkiv was attacked this evening.”

The presidential office confirmed the Kharkiv attack came after Trump’s ceasefire post.

Zelenskyy said Ukraine was “ready to refrain from striking Russian energy infrastructure — and we count on the same readiness from Russia.”

Russia has sought to deny Ukrainian civilians power, heat and running water during the war, hoping to wear down public resistance to Moscow’s full-scale

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Saudi airport terminal struck again

Houthi rebels
in Yemen claim
responsibility

By Sammy Magdy,
Cara Anna & Julia Frankel
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A projectile struck a passenger terminal at the international airport in Riyadh on Sunday, a day after a missile hit the same terminal and killed 12 people, the Saudi-led coalition fighting Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen said.

The Houthis claimed responsibility for those attacks and others.

Saudi authorities said there were injuries in the latest attack on the King Khalid International Airport complex for terminals 3 and 4, serving domestic flights. The airport — struck four times in the past five days — has been closed since Saturday’s missile attack, which was the deadliest in a Gulf Arab nation since the Iran war began. More than 300 other people were wounded, some critically.

The sharp escalation in the war’s new front threatens to draw in greater U.S. military involvement. President Donald Trump has said he is weighing joining the fight against the Houthis.

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