

Publications of the Week

Prognostic Model to Predict Post-Autologous Stem Cell Transplantation Outcomes in Classical Hodgkin Lymphoma

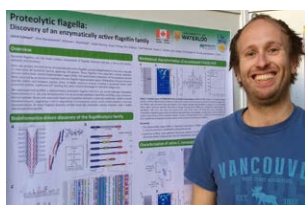
First Author: Fong Chun Chan | Senior Author: Christian Steidl (*pictured*)
Journal of Clinical Oncology | BC Cancer Agency and UBC



The authors performed digital gene expression profiling on a cohort of 245 formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tumour specimens from 174 patients with classical Hodgkin lymphoma, including 71 with biopsies taken at both primary diagnosis and relapse, to investigate temporal gene expression differences and associations with post-autologous stem cell transplantation outcomes. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Discovery of a Proteolytic Flagellin Family in Diverse Bacterial Phyla That Assembles Enzymatically Active Flagella

First Author: Ulrich Eckhard (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Christopher Overall
Nature Communications | The Life Sciences Institute and UBC



Bacterial flagella are cell locomotion and occasional adhesion organelles composed primarily of the polymeric protein flagellin, but to date have not been associated with any enzymatic function. The authors report the bioinformatics-driven discovery of a class of enzymatic flagellins that assemble to form proteolytically active flagella. Originating by a metallopeptidase insertion into the central flagellin hypervariable region, this flagellin family has expanded to at least 74 bacterial species. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Cortical Functional Hyperconnectivity in a Mouse Model of Depression and Selective Network Effects of Ketamine

First Author: Alexander McGirr (*right*) | Senior Author: Timothy Murphy (*left*)
Brain | Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health and UBC

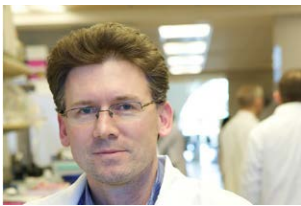


Human depression is associated with glutamatergic dysfunction and alterations in resting state network activity. However, the indirect nature of human *in vivo* glutamate and activity assessments obscures mechanistic details. Using the chronic social defeat mouse model of depression, the authors determined how mesoscale glutamatergic networks are altered after chronic stress, and in response to the rapid acting antidepressant, ketamine. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

NEWS AND VIEWS: Interpreting the T-Cell Receptor Repertoire

Author: Robert Holt (*pictured*)

Nature Biotechnology | BC Cancer Agency Genome Sciences Centre, UBC, and SFU

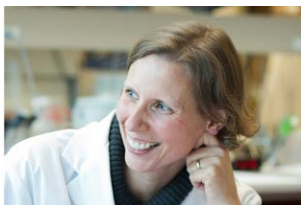


Engineered T-cell receptors (TCRs) have tremendous therapeutic potential for targeted, T-cell-mediated killing of infected or malignant cells. A key hurdle in realizing this vision is understanding and manipulating the interactions of TCRs with their cognate antigens. A leap forward is now provided in papers published recently in *Nature*, which show that at positions of high-antigen-contact probability, TCR variants tend to have conserved sequence motifs. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

September 2017 Award Recipient Summary



Learn about the Vancouver researchers who received grants, awards, fellowships, and scholarships this September! Winners include Dr. Megan Levings (*pictured*) at the B.C. Children's Hospital Research Institute, who was recently announced as one of many researchers within Vancouver to be awarded Canadian Institutes of Health Research Foundations Grants. [Read More](#)

Dean Michael Coughtrie among New Fellows Inducted into the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences

UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences



In September, Dr. Michael Coughtrie (*pictured*), Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at UBC, was named a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS). Induction into CAHS is a significant honour for members of the Canadian research community. Nominations are based on the candidates fulfillment of strict criteria in the areas of international leadership, academic performance, scientific creativity, and willingness to serve. [Read More](#)

Umme Amara Wins 2017 Neil Mackenzie Mentorship Excellence Award

The Centre for Blood Research



Since 2015, the UBC Centre for Blood Research (CBR) has offered an award to honour the memory of Neil Mackenzie and to recognize the mentorship excellence he provided within the CBR community. This year, CBR members nominated and selected Dr. Umme Amara (*pictured with Neil Mackenzie's parents, Angus and Margaret*) as the recipient. [Read More](#)

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Local News

UBC Researchers Promote the Fundamental Science Review on Parliament

Hill

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Dr. Liisa Galea, Dr. Phil Hieter, and Dr. Santa Ono of UBC recently travelled to Ottawa in support of the Fundamental Science Review. The group met with Members of Parliament (MPs), including Canadian Minister of Science Kirsty Duncan, to emphasize the importance of basic science and to lobby for support from MPs for the implementation of the Fundamental Science Review, also known as the Naylor Report. [Read More](#)

Tiny but Mighty: Research Explores How Microbes Can Support Water Treatment in Mining

Genome BC



In a partnership with Dr. Sue Baldwin at UBC, and with funding from Genome BC, Teck Resources Limited is exploring how to optimize the use of microbes in water treatment to reduce selenium. Selenium is a naturally-occurring substance that can be released through the mining process and impact aquatic health in high quantities. The research aims to understand which microbes affect treatment efficiency and under what conditions these biological processes could be optimized. [Read More](#)

Troy McDiarmid Worms into the Intricacies of Genetic Risk in ASD

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



To understand how gene mutations affect neurodevelopment and learning in people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), UBC PhD candidate Troy McDiarmid is looking at microscopic worms. McDiarmid (*pictured*), a graduate student in Dr. Catharine Rankin's lab, was recently awarded a Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarships Doctoral Award from CIHR for his proposal to characterize ASD-associated gene mutations in worm models of the disorder.

[Read More](#)

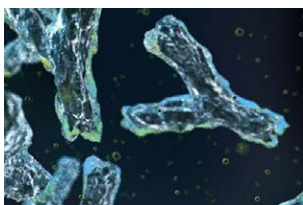
STEMCELL Technologies Signs Exclusive License with Propagenix to Commercialize EpiX, an Innovation Empowering Epithelial Cell Biology and Cell Therapy

STEMCELL Technologies



STEMCELL Technologies has signed an exclusive license with Propagenix of Rockville, MD to commercialize its patented EpiX™ technology, a novel and revolutionary cell culture medium that enables unprecedented expansion of tissue-resident epithelial stem cells without any genetic manipulation. EpiX™ outperforms current state-of-the-art cell culture systems, which typically yield fewer than 20 population doublings before the cells senesce. [Read More](#)

Merck to Advance Bispecific Antibody Drug Candidate Developed Using Zymeworks' Azymetric™ Platform into Preclinical Development



Zymeworks Inc. has announced that Merck has provided formal notification of their plans to advance a bispecific drug candidate into preclinical development. The drug candidate was developed by Merck, through a subsidiary, in collaboration with Zymeworks using Zymeworks' proprietary Azymetric™ and EFECT™ platforms as part of an existing Research and License Agreement between the two companies.

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Interesting Articles

Mona Nemer, Heart Researcher, Appointed Canada's New Chief Scientist

CBC News



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has selected Ottawa heart researcher Mona Nemer to be the country's top scientist. Nemer will head up a \$2-million budget and report to Trudeau and Science Minister Kirsty Duncan as she provides scientific advice to government decision-makers, helps to keep government science accessible and public, and protects federal scientists from being muzzled. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| October 17
9:00 AM | Career Connect : STEMCELL Technologies
STEMCELL Technologies |
| October 17
10:00 AM | Business Development Basics for Life Science Companies
CDRD Headquarters |
| October 18 - 19
11:00 AM | UBC Careers Days 2017
AMS Student Nest |
| October 19
4:00 PM | 2017 Don Rix Distinguished Keynote Address
Vancouver Convention Centre |
| October 20 - 22
8:00 AM | Hackseq
Life Sciences Institute, UBC |

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

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STEMCELL Technologies

Scientist, Immunology

STEMCELL Technologies

Antibody Testing Laboratory Technician

GenomeMe

Sector Manager, Health

Genome BC

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