

Publications of the Week

Multi-Target-Directed Phenol-Triazole Ligands as Therapeutic Agents for Alzheimer's Disease

First Author: Michael Jones (*fifth from left*) | Senior Author: Tim Storr (*second from left*)
Chemical Science | SFU



Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a multifactorial disease that is characterized by the formation of intracellular neurofibrillary tangles and extracellular amyloid- β ($A\beta$) plaque deposits. Increased oxidative stress, metal ion dysregulation, and the formation of toxic $A\beta$ peptide oligomers are all considered to contribute to the etiology of AD. The authors have developed a series of ligands that are multi-target-directed in order to address several disease properties. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Antimicrobial Resistance Gene Acquisition and Depletion Following Fecal Microbiota Transplantation for Recurrent *Clostridium difficile* Infection

First Author: Victor Leung | Senior Author: Ameer Manges (*pictured*)
Clinical Infectious Diseases | The Centre for Disease Control and UBC



Fecal microbiota transplantation (FMT) may be a novel approach to eliminate multidrug-resistant bacteria from the gut and to prevent future infections. Using whole metagenome sequencing data from eight FMT donor-recipient pairs, the authors identified 37 and 95 antimicrobial resistance genes that were acquired by or removed from FMT recipients, respectively. [Abstract](#)

REVIEW: Emerging Targets in Cancer Immunotherapy

First Author: Samantha Burugu | Senior Author: Torsten Nielsen (*pictured*)
Seminars in Cancer Biology | UBC



The first generation of immune checkpoint inhibitors targeted natural immune homeostasis pathways, co-opted by cancers, to drive anti-tumor immune responses. Newer strategies are becoming available that target additional immunomodulatory mechanisms to activate patients' own anti-tumor immune responses. The authors present a succinct summary of emerging immune targets with reported pre-clinical efficacy that have progressed to active investigation in clinical trials. [Abstract](#)

Awards

Blusson Integrated Cures Partnership-Funded Seed Grant Leads to US \$1.926 Million Grant

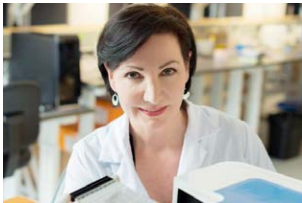
International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries



International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries researchers Dr. Christ West and Dr. Brian Kwon (*pictured*) have been awarded US\$1.926 million by the US Department of Defense to study how changes to heart function following spinal cord injury (SCI) can impact mobility. Their study will explore how the heart changes immediately at the time of injury and during the first hours-to-days after SCI. [Read More](#)

Infrastructure Grants from Canadian Government Fund Brain and Spinal Cord Research

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



The UBC Faculty of Medicine received a total of \$31.2 million in the latest round of Canada Foundation for Innovation funding. The eight projects represent the majority of the 15 grants, totaling \$52.2 million, awarded to UBC. Dr. Cheryl Wellington (*pictured*) received \$4.5 million for further development of a platform for investigating traumatic brain injury (TBI). The research aims to develop biomarkers for TBI and more accurately predict recovery and long-term consequences.

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Local News

BC Platforms Announces Collaborations to Advance Research in Multiple Sclerosis

BC Platforms

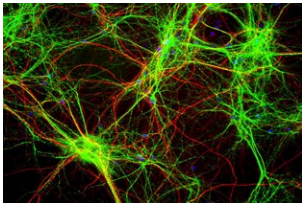


BC Platforms, a world leader in genomic data management and analysis solutions, has announced that Biogen and the Accelerated Cure Project will each be using its technology solutions and research platform, including its recently launched BCRQUEST.COM to better understand the genetic basis of multiple sclerosis and accelerate research into its causes and mechanisms. [Read More](#)

Xenon Pharmaceuticals Announces Initiation of XEN1101 Phase I Clinical Trial

Xenon Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Xenon Pharmaceuticals Inc., a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company, has announced the initiation of a Phase 1 “first-in-human” clinical trial of its proprietary



epilepsy product candidate, XEN1101, which is an orally administered Kv7 potassium channel opener that has the potential to treat both adult as well as rare pediatric genetic forms of epilepsy. [Read More](#)

BC Tech Association Appoints New President and CEO

BC Tech Association



The BC Technology Association has announced that Jill Tipping has been appointed as the new President and CEO, effective November 22, 2017. Jill will take over from outgoing President and CEO, Bill Tam, who will continue in a part-time advisory role to support a successful transition, as well as bring several strategic initiatives to a successful conclusion. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

The Fast Track for Regenerative Medicine

Biotechnology Focus



Canada, despite relatively smaller investments from funders compared with the U.K. or the U.S., is poised to make significant headway in advanced manufacturing thanks to a unique home-grown innovation model. Further industrialization will expand the ecosystem to the point where successful companies have the potential to compete for the best trainees, creating a sustainable knowledge base so that talent can move around in the same jurisdiction [Read More](#)

1000 Simple Words to Improve Science Communication

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Inspired by popular web comic XKCD's *Thing Explainer*, and motivated by a desire to get complex research ideas into the hands (and newsfeeds) of a broader audience, researchers in Dr. Rebecca Todd's lab at UBC have been blogging about the lab's publications using the 1000 most commonly used English words. "Restricting ourselves to 1000 words has really made us think about language and how we can communicate more effectively", says Todd. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

October 31 **Cafe Scientifique**
7:30 PM Yaggers Downtown

November 5 - 7 **4th Canadian Cancer Research Conference**

- 8:00 AM Vancouver Convention Centre
- November 7 7:00 PM **Biodiversity Lecture Series with Claire Kremen**
Ross Beaty Lecture Theatre
- November 12 10:30 AM **Communicating to Engage**
The Improv Centre
- November 24 4:00 PM **Discussions Relevant to Inspiring New Knowledge and Science**
Mahony and Sons

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

Research Associate, Bioengineering

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Scientist, Immunology

STEMCELL Technologies

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UBC Kidney Transplant Research Program, Division of Nephrology

Lab Technician, Comparative Animal Research

Amgen

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