

Volume 3.39: October 7, 2019

#### Publications of the Week

### MRE11-RAD50-NBS1 Promotes Fanconi Anemia R-Loop Suppression at Transcription–Replication Conflicts

First Author: Emily Yun-Chia Chang (*pictured, front row, second from left*) | Senior Author: Peter Stirling (*back row, right*) Nature Communications | Terry Fox Laboratory, Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics and UBC



The authors performed a genome-wide trigenic interaction screen in yeast lacking *RNH1* and *RNH201*. They identified >100 genes critical for fitness in the absence of RNaseH, which were enriched for DNA replication fork maintenance factors including the MRE11-RAD50-NBS1 (MRN) complex. They showed that the MRN complex suppressed R-loops and associated DNA damage at transcription–replication conflicts. **Profile | Abstract** 

### Probabilistic Cell-Type Assignment of Single-Cell RNA-Seq for Tumour Microenvironment Profiling

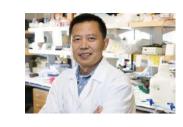
First Author: Allen Zhang | Senior Author: Sohrab Shah (*pictured*) Nature Methods | BC Cancer, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute and UBC



The authors present CellAssign, a probabilistic model that leverages prior knowledge of cell-type marker genes to annotate single-cell RNA sequencing data into predefined or *de novo* cell types. CellAssign automates the process of assigning cells in a highly scalable manner across large datasets while controlling for batch and sample effects. **Abstract** 

## p97 Regulates GluA1 Homomeric AMPA Receptor Formation and Plasma Membrane Expression

First Author: Yuan Ge | Senior Author: Yu Tian Wang (*pictured*) Nature Communications | Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



The  $\alpha$ -amino-3-hydroxy-5-methylisoxazole-4-propionic acid subtype glutamate receptors (AMPARs) mediate the fast excitatory synaptic transmission in the mammalian brain and are important for synaptic plasticity. The authors report that p97 specifically interacted with and promoteed the formation of GluA1-homomeric AMPARs. Abstract

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#### Awards

### **September 2019 Award Winners**



Dr. Carolina Tropini *(pictured)*, an Assistant Professor at UBC, has been named as a 2019-2021 CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar. The program supports exceptional early-career researchers who show promise to be the research leaders of tomorrow. Find out which other Vancouver-based researchers received grants, awards and scholarships in the month of September in our award summary!

## 2019 Outstanding Achievement Awards & BCCHR Studentships and Fellowships Announced

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



Lindsay Richter *(pictured)*, from the Lisonkova and Ting research teams, is among a group of researchers at the BC Children's Hospital Research (BCCHR) Institute who have received 2019 Outstanding Achievement Awards and BCCHR Studentships and Fellowships. Lindsay received the Outstanding Achievement Award by a Master's Student. **Read More** 

## Poul Sorensen Receives Bloom Burton Award for Innovative Cancer Research

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Dr. Poul Sorensen *(pictured)*, a UBC Professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, has been awarded the 2019 Bloom Burton Award. The annual award honours a scientist, inventor, executive, entrepreneur, industry leader, or policy maker who has made the greatest contribution to Canada's innovative healthcare industry in the previous year. **Read More** 

# Dr. Liisa Galea and Collaborators Awarded a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Award

UBC Department of Psychology



Dr. Liisa Galea *(pictured)*, a distinguished university scholar and Professor in the Department of Psychology, has received the Convening & Collaborating award from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research. She, along with a host of interdisciplinary collaborators, will be using this award to host a Women's Health Conference, Brain Exchange: Engaging Inter-Disciplinary Perspectives to Support Women's Brain Health. **Read More** 

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Local News

'You Have Given Us the Greatest Gift': B.C. Doctor Thanked for Life-Saving Cancer Research

CBC News



Medical professionals don't always get to hear from the people whose lives they have changed, but Kayley Leeds from Alberta finally had the chance to thank the Vancouver-based doctor whose research helped save the life of her young son. Leeds says that her son Ashton is alive today because of research that Dr. Poul Sorensen has done in the field of childhood cancer. **Read More** 

CannaVcell Announces Stable Production of Cannabis Cells, Trichomes, and Cannabinoids without the Need to Grow the Cannabis Plant Itself



Using breakthrough proprietary and patented technology developed by BioHarvest Ltd., CannaVcell has announced the first ever production of cannabis cells in suspension, with a cannabinoid profile identical to that of the source plant – without the need to grow the plant itself. This achievement marks a turning point in the cannabis industry as it will enable the commercial production of cannabis derived active ingredients without the need to grow the plant. **Read More** 

### AbCellera Named One of Canada's Top Growing Companies

AbCellera



AbCellera has been named one of Vancouver's top 10 fastest growing companies, according to the Globe and Mail's list of Canada's Top Growing Companies. The Report on Business ranks Canadian companies based on three-year revenue growth. AbCellera was founded in 2012 as a spin-off from UBC by Dr. Carl Hansen *(pictured)*, who was a faculty member from 2005 to 2019. **Read More** 

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### Upcoming Events in Vancouver

| October 7<br>8:00 AM | Digital Health Initiative – A Collaboration between Sweden and<br>British Columbia<br>RBC Royal Bank         |
|----------------------|--|
| October 9            | UBC Career Days  |
| 11:00 AM             | Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre  |
| October 9<br>6:00 PM | McCarthy Spotlight Speaking Series: Showcasing MedTech<br>Innovations in Healthcare<br>McCarthy Tetrault LLP |
| October 9            | KPU-Science World Speaker Series: The War in Our Genes   |
| 7:00 PM              | Science World at Telus World of Science  |
| October 9            | Misinformation is Killing Us – Rx: The Truth, with Timothy Caulfield   |
| 7:00 PM              | SFU Segal Building   |

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### **Image: STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver**

Scientist, Pulmonary STEMCELL Technologies

Associate Product Manager, Epithelial Cell Biology STEMCELL Technologies

Associate Product Manager, Mesenchymal & Myogenic STEMCELL Technologies

Research Associate, Bioengineering STEMCELL Technologies

Scientific Inside Sales Representative STEMCELL Technologies

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### Other Science Jobs in Vancouver

Assistant Professor, Biochemistry Michael Smith Laboratories

Assistant Professor, Tenure Track UBC Department of Medical Genetics

Research Associate, Immuno-Oncology Cuprous Pharmaceuticals

Scientist, Chemistry and Radiochemistry AdMare BioInnovations

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Pharmacogenomics, Bioinformatics, and Clinical Pharmacology UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

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