

Publications of the Week

Mutation of an L-Type Calcium Channel Gene Leads to T Lymphocyte Dysfunction

First Author: Franz Fenninger (second from left) | Senior Author: Wilfred Jeffries
Frontiers in Immunology | Michael Smith Laboratories and UBC



Calcium (Ca²⁺) is a vital secondary messenger in T lymphocytes regulating a vast array of important events including maturation, homeostasis, activation, and apoptosis, and can enter the cell through CRAC, TRP, and Ca_v channels. The authors describe a mutation in the L-type Ca²⁺ channel Ca_v1.4 leading to T lymphocyte dysfunction, including several hallmarks of immunological exhaustion. [Abstract](#)

Biological Embedding of Experience: A Primer on Epigenetics

First Author: Maria Aristizabal (pictured) | Senior Author: Kieran O'Donnell
PNAS | BC Children's Hospital Research Institute and UBC



Biological embedding occurs when life experience alters biological processes to affect later life health and well-being. Although extensive correlative data exist supporting the notion that epigenetic mechanisms such as DNA methylation underlie biological embedding, causal data are lacking. The authors describe specific epigenetic mechanisms and their potential roles in the biological embedding of experience. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

New Fellows Champion Evidence-Based Government Strategies

Mitacs



This Fall 2019, 17 researchers, including Olga Pena (pictured), begin year-long placements in the federal government and two provincial governments, harnessing their research expertise for the development of policy-based decisions on key issues across Canada. The fellows will continue to build relationships between policy makers and academic researchers, contributing their research backgrounds and scientific expertise to government policy-making. [Read More](#)

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Local News

BC Institute, Elanco Bring Genome Sequencing Tool to Salmon Producers

Undercurrent News



Elanco Animal Health and the BC Center for Aquatic Health Sciences (BC-CAHS) have acquired and validated a novel DNA sequencing platform at the BC-CAHS' laboratory. The MinION Sequencer, which was developed at Oxford University, features applications that can handle "microbial identification, viral and bacterial phylogenomics, population genomics, metagenomics and monitoring of antibiotic resistance". [Read More](#)

Is Some Kombucha Boozier Than Intended? Study Aims to Find Out

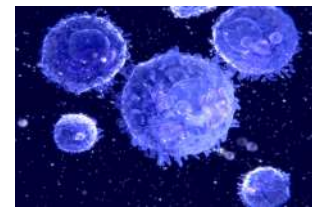
CTV News



Some kombucha drinkers believe the fermented tea beverage helps with everything from digestion to liver health – but people don't generally buy it to get tipsy. Under the wrong storage conditions, however, researchers say even kombucha that's labelled "non-alcoholic" can become as boozy as beer or cider. The B.C. Centre for Disease Control is working to determine whether it could potentially pose a public health risk. [Read More](#)

Allogene Therapeutics and Notch Therapeutics Announce Collaboration to Research and Develop Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell-Derived Allogeneic Therapies for Hematologic Cancer Indications

Notch Therapeutics



Allogene Therapeutics, a company pioneering the development of allogeneic CAR T (AlloCAR T™) therapies for cancer, and Notch Therapeutics Inc., an immune cell therapy company creating universally compatible, allogeneic T cell therapies, are now in an exclusive worldwide collaboration and license agreement to research and develop induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) AlloCAR™ therapy products. [Read More](#)

CBR Member Feature: Maria-Elizabeth Baeva, BSc

Centre for Blood Research



This interview features CBR member Maria-Elizabeth Baeva (pictured). She is a Master of Science candidate in the laboratory of Dr. Wilfred Jeffries. Maria attributes much of her academic and extra-curricular success to her parents, who are immigrants from Russia, and instilled in her many qualities of leadership that contribute to her tenacity as an emerging figure in her field. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Why Canada Is Becoming a Start-Up Mecca Rivaling Silicon Valley

The Globe and Mail



Ten years ago, when Toronto entrepreneur Brendan Frey wanted to start his company, he said, "conditions weren't right." But by 2015, he found the local environment had become a lot more hospitable to start-ups. So he launched Deep Genomics. Frey launched his startup at MaRS, a hub with more than 200 partners in the corporate, government and academic worlds that helps connect startups with funding and advice. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- November 19 12:00 PM **Brown Bags @UBC**
Chan Gunn Pavilion
- November 21 8:30 AM **Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre 20th Anniversary**
Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre
- November 21 4:00 PM **D.R.I.N.K.S. (Discussions Relevant to Inspiring New Knowledge and Science)**
Mahony and Sons
- November 21 - 23 8:00 AM **BC Cancer Summit**
Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre
- November 23 1:30 PM **Vancouver STEMminist Book Club Reads "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks"**
University Women's Club of Vancouver

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- Associate Product Manager, Mesenchymal & Myogenic**
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- Scientific Inside Sales Representative**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Flow Cytometry Specialist**
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Chinook Therapeutics
- Translational Renal Biologist**
Chinook Therapeutics
- Senior Lab Technician**
NovoBind Livestock Therapeutics Inc.
- Bioinformatics Staff Scientist**
BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
- Scientific Specialist**
Precision Nanosystems

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