

## Publications of the Week

**Sustained Depletion of FXIII-A by Inducing Acquired FXIII-B Deficiency**

 First Author: Amy Strlichuk *(pictured)* | Senior Author: Christian Kastrup  
 Blood | Michael Smith Laboratories, UBC and Canadian Blood Services


The activated form of coagulation factor XIII, FXIII-A, is a hemostatic enzyme essential for inhibiting fibrinolysis, by irreversibly crosslinking fibrin and antifibrinolytic proteins. Guided by the observation that humans deficient in FXIII-B have reduced FXIII-A without severe bleeding, the authors hypothesized that a suitable small interfering RNA targeting hepatic FXIII-B could safely decrease FXIII-A. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

**Frequency of the Loss of CAA Interruption in the *HTT* CAG Tract and Implications for Huntington Disease in the Reduced Penetrance Range**

 First Author: Hailey Findlay Black | Senior Author: Michael Hayden *(pictured)*  
 Genetics in Medicine | Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics


In some Huntington disease patients, the "loss of interruption" (LOI) variant eliminates an interrupting codon in the *HTT* CAG-repeat tract, which causes earlier age of onset (AOO). The authors developed a LOI detection polymerase chain reaction assay, and screened patients to estimate the frequency of the LOI variant and its effect on AOO. [Abstract](#)

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## Awards

**July 2020 Award Winners**


Katlyn Richardson *(pictured)* is one of five Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) Research Institute trainees who has received a Rising Star award, recognizing outstanding efforts in research excellence, service as role models, and other contributions to the VCH research community. See which other researchers received grants, awards, fellowships and scholarships in our July award summary. [Read More](#)

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## Local News

**Cell Recycling Mechanism May Inform Breast Cancer Patient Prognosis**

Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre at BC Cancer



In cancer, autophagy has been shown to contribute to both disease suppression and progression depending on a number of factors, including the stage of the disease. In a new study led by Genome Sciences Centre Distinguished Scientist Dr. Sharon Gorski *(pictured)*, researchers revealed that three key autophagy molecules — ATG4B, LC3B and GABARAP — may be useful together to determine prognosis for breast cancer patients. [Read More](#)

**Genome BC Announces New Chief Scientific Officer & VP Sectors**

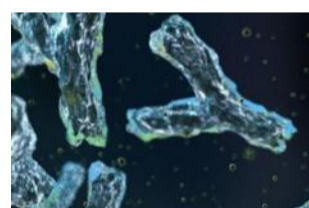
Genome BC



Genome BC has announced the appointment of Dr. Federica Di Palma *(pictured)* as Chief Scientific Officer & Vice President of Sectors. She brings over 20 years of international experience in science, technology and innovation with an emphasis on understanding complex biological systems. Dr. Di Palma holds a PhD in Immunogenetics from the University of Reading and brings strong international connections. [Read More](#)

**AbCellera Provides COVID-19 Program Update with the Start of Phase 3 Clinical Trials and the Expansion of its COVID-19 Antibody Database**

AbCellera



AbCellera has announced that LY-CoV555, a human antibody discovered by AbCellera in collaboration with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Vaccine Research Center and co-developed with Eli Lilly and Company as a potential treatment and prophylaxis for COVID-19, has progressed to Phase 3 clinical trials. [Read More](#)

**Reflections of a CBR-SBME Summer Student: Remote Research in the Time of COVID-19**

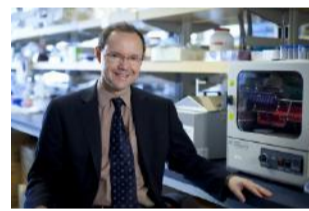
The Centre for Blood Research



Cecilia Haymin Kim is a second-year student at Princeton University who is majoring in Chemistry with minors in Global Health Policy and Materials Science. In this piece, she reflects on her experience participating remotely in the Summer Studentship Research Program with the UBC Centre for Blood Research and School of Biomedical Engineering. [Read More](#)

**A Hallmark Mutation May Be the Achilles Heel for Adult Granulosa Cell Tumours of the Ovary**

BC Cancer



A mutation in a transcription factor essential for ovary development is commonly used as a diagnostic marker for a type of ovarian cancer, but little is known about how it affects the tumour cell itself. Extensive analysis of how this mutation alters DNA binding, conducted by BC Cancer scientist Dr. David Huntsman *(pictured)* and colleagues at the Genome Science Centre, has revealed the potential for a novel treatment strategy. [Read More](#)

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## Interesting Articles

**What Does Success Look Like for Responsive and Responsible Research Funding?**

Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research



According to Chonnetta Jones *(pictured)*, Vice President of Research at the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, "As research funders, we recognize the importance of being accountable not only for what, but how we deliver our mission [...] However, there is no consensus on "best practice" in research funding, and there is little understanding of what works, for whom, and under what circumstances". [Read More](#)

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**Upcoming Events in Vancouver**

August 12 10:00 AM	<b>Stem Cells from the Sofa Speaker Series: Anil Dilawri</b> Online
August 12 2:00 PM	<b>Women's Health Research Institute Summer Social Media Series</b> Online
August 13 10:00 AM	<b>Centre for Blood Research: Research Day</b> Online
August 14-16 8:00 AM	<b>SciComm 2020</b> Online
August 23 5:00 PM	<b>Whole Human Summit Session: Let's Talk About Access</b> Online

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**Other Science Jobs in Vancouver**

- Project Manager**  
AbCellera
- Director, Search & Evaluation**  
Zymeworks
- Senior Scientist, Protein Technologies Team Lead**  
Amgen
- Research Assistant/Technician 3**  
UBC Centre for Molecular Medicine & Therapeutics
- Research Coordinator**  
St Paul's Hospital Hematology/Oncology Research Group

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**Free Wallchart:**  
SARS-CoV-2 Structure and Life Cycle



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