

Publications of the Week

Vascular and Renal Telomere Shortening in Mice Exposed to Chronic Intermittent Hypoxia

First Author: Mohammad Badran | Senior Authors: Issy Laher (pictured, left) and Najib Ayas (right) | Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology | Providence Health Care and UBC



Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) is a chronic condition characterized by chronic intermittent hypoxia (IH) and is associated with cardiovascular and chronic kidney diseases. Patients with OSA have increased biomarkers of aging such as telomere shortening. The authors used PCR to report shortened telomere lengths in aortic and renal tissues from mice exposed to eight weeks of IH. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

An Improved *In Vitro* Model for Studying the Structural and Functional Properties of the Endothelial Glycocalyx in Arteries, Capillaries, and Veins

First Author: Erika Siron | Senior Author: Jayachandran Kizhakkedathu | The Journal of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology | Centre for Blood Research, Life Sciences Institute, and UBC



The authors present a new multi-height microfluidic platform that promotes the growth of functional glycocalyxes by eliciting unique shear stress forces over a continuous human umbilical vein endothelial cell monolayer at magnitudes that recapitulate the physical environment in arterial, capillary, and venous regions of the vasculature. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Faculty of Medicine Members Recognized with Killam Awards for Excellence in Teaching

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Four faculty members and one graduate student are recognized with the 2020-2021 Killam Awards for their outstanding teaching, research and service to the community. As one of six Killam institutions, UBC offers yearly awards from the Killam Endowment Fund to faculty and teaching assistants. Natasha Orr (pictured) was awarded the Graduate Student Teaching Assistant Award. [Read More](#)

Jen Nguyen from the Tropini Lab Receives Killam Award Fellowship for Postdoctoral Research

UBC Faculty of Microbiology & Immunology



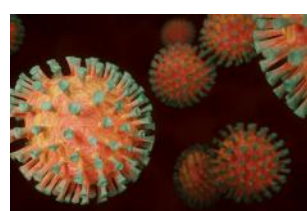
"It feels awesome to start a new project in a new place with this kind of momentum. It's a really special kind of welcome and motivation," shares Dr. Jen Nguyen (pictured), a postdoc who joined Dr. Carolina Tropini's lab in January 2021. Dr. Nguyen recently received the Killam Award Fellowship for her postdoctoral research and is very excited about her placement in the UBC Department of Microbiology and Immunology. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Scientists Identify Genes Associated with COVID-19 Risk

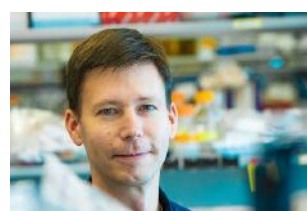
CTV News



New research, presented at the American Thoracic Society 2021 International Conference, suggests that having genetic risk variants in the ABO gene, among others, might increase one's chances of contracting SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. Dr. Ana Hernandez Cordero, a postdoctoral fellow with the Centre for Heart Lung Innovation at UBC, and her colleagues used integrative genomics combined with proteomics to identify these genes. [Read More](#)

20 Questions with Tim Kieffer

The Stem Cell Network



2021 is the 20th anniversary of the Stem Cell Network. They asked 20 of Canada's leading and up-and-coming stem cell scientists, including Dr. Tim Kieffer (pictured), 20 questions — about their life, their work and their views on the stem cell sector. Dr. Kieffer's lab is pursuing gene and cell therapy approaches for diabetes. "I think of all the diseases poised to benefit the most from stem cells, diabetes must be at, or near, the top," he says. [Read More](#)

Acuitas Announces Nature Publication with Verve Therapeutics Demonstrating Potent and Durable Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol Reduction in Non-Human Primates after a Gene Editing Treatment

Acuitas Therapeutics



Acuitas Therapeutics has announced publication of research results in *Nature* from the company's work as part of a collaboration with Verve Therapeutics to develop non-viral lipid nanoparticle delivery technologies for single-course *in vivo*, liver-targeted gene editing treatments for cardiovascular disease, the leading cause of death worldwide. [Read More](#)

Celebrating Over Five Years of CBR Knowledge Translation

The Centre for Blood Research (CBR)



Founded in January 2015, the CBR Knowledge Translation (KT) Committee is a group of undergraduates, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, research associates, and technicians who are passionate about science writing, blogging, and mixed media communications. Members include Dr. Michael Hughes, Sarah Bowers, and Aparna Gopal (pictured). With writers and editors who work collaboratively, the KT Committee publishes a blog post every Thursday. [Read More](#)

Carbohydrate 'Cage' Allows Precise Drug Delivery to Inflammation Site in the Gastrointestinal Tract

GlycoNet



According to Crohn's and Colitis Canada, one in 140 Canadians lives with Crohn's or colitis, the two main forms of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). GlycoNet researchers from UBC, BC Children's Hospital, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, led by Drs. Laura Sly (pictured, left) and Harry Brumer (right), are developing a technology called "GlycoCage," aimed to improve the efficacy of IBD drugs by refining the method of drug delivery to patients. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

May 26 12:00 PM	TI Methods Speaker Series: What's Counted and What Counts: Metrics in Scholarly Publishing Online
May 27 3:00 PM	SCWIST Job Fair – Women in STEM Online
May 28 7:45 AM	Pathology Day Online
June 2 12:00 PM	WIP Seminar: Dr. Nathaniel Hawkins Online
June 4 11:00 AM	The 17th D. Harold Copp Lecture Online

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UBC
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Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre
- Clinical Research Coordinator**
Providence Health Care Research Institute
- Research Scientist, Functional Assays**
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