

Publications of the Week
A Gap-Junction-Mediated, Calcium-Signalling Network Controls Blood Progenitor Fate Decisions in Hematopoiesis

 First Author: Kevin Ho | Senior Author: Guy Tanentzapf (pictured)
 Current Biology | UBC


Stem cell homeostasis requires coordinated fate decisions among stem cells that are often widely distributed within a tissue at varying distances from their stem cell niche. The authors show that in the *Drosophila* hematopoietic organ, the lymph gland (LG) gap junctions form a network that coordinates fate decisions between blood progenitors. Using live imaging of calcium signalling in intact LGs, they show that blood progenitors are connected through a signalling network. [Abstract](#)

Reversing Pathology in a Preclinical Model of Alzheimer's Disease by Hacking Cerebrovascular Neovascularization with Advanced Cancer Therapeutics

 First Author: Chahat Singh | Senior Author: Wilfred Jefferies (pictured)
 EBioMedicine | Michael Smith Laboratories, Centre for Blood Research, Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health, Vancouver Prostate Centre, and UBC


Targeting the pro-angiogenic pathway in Alzheimer's disease (AD) using the cancer drug, Axitinib, dramatically reduced cerebrovascular neovascularization, restored blood-brain barrier integrity, resolved tight-junction pathogenesis, diminished amyloid-beta depositions in plaques, and effectively restored memory and cognitive performance in a preclinical mouse model of AD. [Abstract](#)

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Awards
Top Graduating Doctoral Student Award and Rising Star Award 2021 Recipients

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute is proud to support tomorrow's research leaders with the Top Graduating Doctoral Student Awards and the Rising Star Awards. Amanda Cheung (pictured) received a Rising Star Award for her spinal cord injury research. Her most recent study investigated the feasibility of an implantable optical sensor to monitor spinal cord oxygenation and hemodynamics during the first week after spinal cord injury. [Read More](#)

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Local News
National Postdoc Appreciation Week 2021: Sharing Stories from CBR Postdocs

Centre for Blood Research



National Postdoc Appreciation Week recognizes the significant contributions that postdoctoral scholars make to research and discovery. Centre for Blood Research (CBR) postdocs are an important part of its research community, and are crucial in driving scientific advancement and innovation. Drs. Alex Leatherdale, Alison McAfee (pictured), Emily Park, and Manoj Paul discuss their research and what drew them to science. [Read More](#)

Multifaceted Approach in Cembrowski Lab Provides Insight on Spatial Memory — a Key Concern in Alzheimer's Patients

Life Sciences Institute (LSI)



In his lab at the LSI, Dr. Mark Cembrowski (pictured) takes a multi-disciplinary approach to understanding how the brain forms, stores, and retrieves memories. Spatial memory is of particular interest. This aspect of memory underlies the ability to recall where you left your keys, the best route to work during rush hour, and other information about where things are. When this capacity is impaired, as seen in wandering patients with Alzheimer's Disease, the odds aren't favourable. [Read More](#)

Study Finds New Biomarker for a Disease Caused by Bone Marrow Transplant

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



A new study led by investigators at BC Children's Hospital has identified a metabolic marker that can flag whether a patient is likely to develop a disease brought on by lifesaving bone-marrow transplants. Chronic graft versus host disease occurs when a donor's stem cells reject the recipient's body, causing a disease that can affect many different organs. Dr. Kirk Schultz (pictured) headed an international team that was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. [Read More](#)

BC-CfE Researchers Help Fight Drug Resistance to Hepatitis C Treatments

BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS (BCCIE)



A new research paper published by the BC-CfE laboratory's scientists will help healthcare providers improve treatments for people living with the hepatitis C virus (HCV). The study, led by Dr. Hope Lapointe, describes a new test that physicians can use to help "personalize" their patients' HCV treatment. HCV infection is a major public health concern in Canada and around the world. [Read More](#)

Study Finds Weaker COVID-19 Vaccine Immune Response in Older Adults

SFU News



A recent study by SFU health scientists found that older adults who received two doses of mRNA vaccine to protect against SARS-CoV-2 were found to have weaker immune responses than younger adults. Available as a pre-print manuscript — which is awaiting peer-review — the study was co-led by Faculty of Health Sciences Professors, Drs. Mark Brockman (pictured, right) and Zabrina Brumme (left), and Dr. Marc Romney of Providence Health Care. [Read More](#)

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September 28 12:00 PM	Science to Business Network Presents: Biotech Startups in BC Online
September 29 12:00 PM	UBC's Annual Address: Powering Bio-Innovation in British Columbia Online
October 1 12:00 PM	Studying KT: Career Paths for Researchers and Trainees Online
October 7 12:00 PM	CHÉOS Lunch and Learn: Modernizing Clinical Trial Regulations Online
October 21-22 11:30 AM	Cascadia 3.0 Online

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