

Publications of the Week

Telomeres, Aging, and Cancer: The Big Picture

Author: Peter Lansdorp (pictured)
Blood | Terry Fox Laboratory, BC Cancer, and UBC



The role of telomeres in human health and disease is yet to be fully understood. It is proposed that both damage to DNA and replicative loss of telomeric DNA contribute to aging in humans, with the differences in leukocyte telomere length between humans being linked to the risk of developing specific diseases. These ideas are captured in the telomere erosion in disposable soma theory of aging.

[Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Emerging Role of Biomarkers in Testicular Germ Cell Tumours

First Author: Maryam Soleimani | Senior Author: Lucia Nappi (pictured)
Genitourinary Cancers | BC Cancer, Vancouver Prostate Centre, and UBC



MicroRNAs are small non-coding RNAs found in blood which play an important role in post-transcriptional gene regulation and have been explored in testicular germ cell tumours for the past 15 years. More recently, results show they are promising biomarkers for diagnosis with impressive sensitivity and specificity, while also being cost-effective. [Abstract](#)

[View All Publications](#)

Awards

Funding Bolsters Tissue Repair, Spinal Cord, and Chronic Pain Research at UBC Science

UBC Science



UBC researchers in Zoology, Chemistry and the Michael Smith Laboratories have received \$6.12 million in research funding to investigate a range of health areas, including tissue repair, spinal cord injury and chronic pain. Dr. Freda Miller's (pictured) project will investigate what controls the decision to regenerate or to form a scar. [Read More](#)

[View All Featured Awards](#) | [View Monthly Award Summaries](#)

Local News

New Milestone toward Universal Blood Type Organs for Transplant

UBC Faculty of Medicine



A team of Canadian scientists have proven it's possible to safely convert the blood type in donor organs intended for transplantation. The findings are an important step towards creating universal type O organs, which would significantly improve fairness in organ allocation and decrease mortality for patients on waitlists. The proof-of-concept study was published by a team of researchers from UBC, the Latner Thoracic Research Laboratories, and Toronto's University Health Network. [Read More](#)

CTN Study Tests New Drug for the First Time in People Living with HIV

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research HIV Trials Network



Canadian HIV Trials Network (CTN) postdoctoral fellow Dr. Léna Royston (pictured) is launching CTNPT 047, a study to test whether letermovir, a new anti-cytomegalovirus (CMV) drug, enables the body to reverse the negative effects of the virus. The study is one of only two in the world using this drug in people living with HIV. The study aims to understand how CMV can increase inflammation and cause health issues in people living with HIV. [Read More](#)

A Two-Decade Quest for Targeted Cancer Treatments

Research2Reality



"The challenge with doing childhood cancer research is that most people in the world, they don't really know much about childhood cancer. They assume that it doesn't really happen in kids. But it does, and it's a very different disease than in adults." Pediatric oncologist Dr. Poul Sorensen (pictured) has spent his career looking for new ways to target childhood cancers by understanding how they escape the immune system or resist treatment. [Read More](#)

Futuristic Coating for Hospital Fabrics and Activewear Kills COVID and E. coli

UBC News



UBC researchers have developed an inexpensive, non-toxic coating for almost any fabric that decreases the infectivity of the virus that causes COVID-19 by up to 90 per cent. And in the future, you might be able to spray it on fabric yourself. "This coating has both passive and active antimicrobial properties, killing microbes immediately upon contact, which is then amped up when sunlight hits the cloth," says senior author Dr. Michael Wolf (pictured). [Read More](#)

Meet Our Students – Sarah Erwin

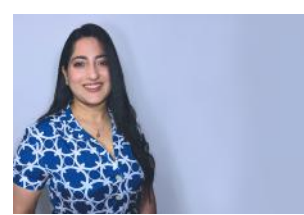
UBC Department of Cellular and Physiological Sciences



Sarah Erwin is a Master's student in Dr. Mark Cembrowski's lab. Sarah's research combines molecular, circuit, and behavioural techniques to study the precise cell-type logic of memory in the brain. Through her dedication and commitment, she has discovered and characterized multiple neuron types involved in memory, which has resulted in two first-author publications. [Read More](#)

#WomenInScience: Dr. Chaahat Singh Is Unravelling the Mysteries of the Central Nervous System

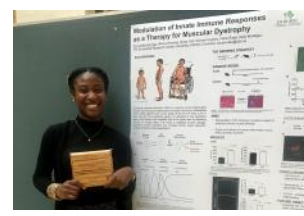
The Centre for Blood Research



Dr. Chaahat Singh's (pictured) research explores treatments for central nervous disorders, like Alzheimer's disease and major depressive disorder. As a postdoc, she is looking at how certain psychedelic drugs can treat major depressive disorder. "Inflammation actually plays a role in both Alzheimer's disease and major depressive disorder, so while these conditions may be different, I see myself as just shifting track a little to find commonalities between them." [Read More](#)

#WomenInScience: Sia Cecilia Jan-Abu Approaches the World with a "Scientific Mentality"

The Centre for Blood Research



For Sia Cecilia Jan-Abu (pictured), one of the best things about being a scientist is being able to look at things from a critical lens, in order to uncover the truth. She is studying different mechanisms that lead to the development of allergies in children. In the McNagny lab, several projects look at perinatal allergy susceptibility, and which factors might lead to one child developing asthma or allergies, compared to another child who never develops either. [Read More](#)

#WomenInScience: Tetiana Povshedna Takes a Holistic, Community-Based Approach to Healthy Aging Research

The Centre for Blood Research



Tetiana's research in the Côté lab takes a holistic, community-based approach to understand aging in women living with HIV. The lab explores both biological variables and social determinants of health. They consider biological factors like cellular aging, inflammation, and the burden of comorbidities. "I always wanted to work on a project that would combine clinical and basic science perspectives," she says. [Read More](#)

[View All Articles](#) | [Submit an Article](#)

Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- February 23 12:00 PM **TI Methods Speaker Series: Harnessing the Power of Excess Statistical Significance** Online
- February 23 1:00 PM **Three Minute Thesis: VCHRI and UBC Heat** Online
- February 24 11:00 AM **SBME Virtual Seminar: Marina Nysten** Online
- February 25 12:00 PM **Praxis SCI Incubate Demo Day 2022** Online
- March 1 10:00 AM **FoM 2022 Spring Virtual Research Showcase** Online

[View All Events](#) | [Submit an Event](#)

STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver

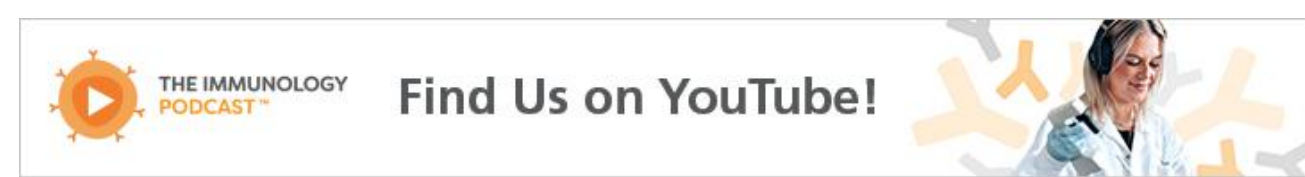
- Flow Cytometry Specialist**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Research Technologist, Cell Separation Automation**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Scientific Marketing Specialist**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Program Coordinator, Primary Cells Commercialization**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Research Associate, Stem Cell Engineering**
STEMCELL Technologies

[View 96 Other STEMCELL Jobs](#)

Other Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Research Faculty, Terry Fox Laboratory**
BC Cancer
- Biomarker Operations Manager**
Chinook Therapeutics
- Communication Specialist**
Michael Smith Laboratories
- Research Associate, Biomaterials**
Aspect Biosystems
- Head of Functional Biology, Immunology/Oncology**
AbCellera

[View 49 Other Science Jobs](#) | [Submit a Job](#)



Submit your articles and events by reaching out to us at info@scienceinvancouver.com.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



- STEMCELL Technologies**
Products | Services
- STEMCELL Science News**
Free Weekly Updates on Your Field
- The Stem Cell Podcast**
Interviews and Updates on Stem Cell Science