Volume 6.30: August 8, 2022

Publications of the Week

Deep Whole-Genome ctDNA Chronology of Treatment-Resistant Prostate Cancer

First Authors: Cameron Herberts, Matti Annala, and Joonatan Sipola | Senior Authors: Felix Feng, Kim Chi, and Alexander Wyatt *(pictured)*
Nature | Vancouver Prostate Centre, BC Cancer, and UBC

Circulating tumour DNA (ctDNA) in blood plasma is an emerging tool for clinical cancer genotyping and longitudinal disease monitoring. The authors perform deep whole-genome sequencing of serial plasma and synchronous metastases in patients with aggressive prostate cancer. Their results provide insights into cancer biology and show that liquid biopsy can be used as a tool for comprehensive multi-omic discovery. **Profile | Abstract | Press Release**

Influence of Type I Interferons in Gammaherpesvirus-68 and Its Influence on EAE Enhancement

First Author: Ana Citlali Márquez | Senior Author: Marc Horwitz *(pictured)*
Frontiers in Immunology | UBC and BC Centre for Disease Control

The authors showed that B cells from mice infected with murine gammaherpesvirus 68 (γHV-68) do not need type I interferon signaling to drive a strong T helper type 1 cell response, yet are important in driving infiltration of the central nervous system by $CD8^+$ T cells. They found that while type I interferons are important for the control of γHV-68 infection and maintenance of latency, they do not have a direct effect in the development of enhanced experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE). **Abstract**

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Awards

July 2022 Award Winners

Science in Vancouver

Dr. Laura Evgin *(pictured)* from BC Cancer received a Canadian Institutes of Health Research grant to improve CAR T therapy by leveraging T cell receptor (TCR) reactivity. Her team will use oncolytic viruses as well as lipid nanoparticle formulated mRNA vaccines to stimulate CAR T cells that also have TCR specificity to viral proteins. See which other Vancouver researchers received grants, awards, and scholarships in July. **Read More**

Meet the Winners of NMIN's 2022 Graduate Awards

NanoMedicines Innovation Network (NMIN)

The NMIN has announced the 15 recipients of the its 2022 Masters- and Doctoral-level Graduate Awards. The goal of NMIN Graduate Awards is to enable exceptional students to pursue nanomedicine academic research training with Canadian experts. Recipients include Po-Han Chao *(pictured)*, a PhD student at the UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences whose research focuses on biomaterials and drug delivery design. **Read More**

New Collaborative Research Grant Will Support the Development of a Vaccine for Misfolded Protein Diseases

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health

A new grant from the Weston Family Foundation through the Weston Brain Institute will support the research and development of a vaccine against neurodegenerative diseases caused by the misfolded protein alpha-synuclein. This project features a collaborative team of neuroscientists from across Canada, led by Dr. Neil Cashman *(pictured)*, a researcher at UBC's Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health and Chief Scientific Officer at ProMIS Neurosciences. **Read More**

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Local News

Study Looks at Airway Aging in People Living with HIV and COPD

BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS (BC-CfE)

In a novel study, BC-CfE researchers looked at whether people living with HIV (PLWH) and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) experience an acceleration of aging in their airways, independent of their smoking history. The objective of this study was to identify whether accelerated aging can be observed in the airways of PLWH with COPD. In order to identify accelerated aging, the researchers sought a unique DNA methylation signature, one which would suggest a unique aging pathophysiology in the HIV airway epithelium. **Read More**

Cytiva Opens New Vancouver Manufacturing Site

Cytiva

Cytiva opened a new 11,724 m^2 site in the greater Vancouver area to expand manufacturing capacity of aseptic filling machines by over 200%. The machines, known as workcells, provide gloveless, robotic aseptic filling capability for final drug product into vials, syringes, and cartridges. The site will serve as a Centre of Excellence for Cytiva's aseptic filling business and will be a base for the global customer user group. **Read More**

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

August 16
9:00 AM
SBME Synergy Research Day
Life Sciences Centre

August 16
12:00 PM
CBR Research Day 2022
Life Sciences Centre

September 7
12:00 PM
WHRI's World Sexual Health Day 2022
Online

September 9
11:00 AM
Metabolic MRI at Ultra-High Fields — From Systems Architecture to Application
Rudy North Lecture Theatre, Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health & Online

September 15–18
8:30 AM
ISCoS Annual Scientific Meeting
Vancouver Convention Centre

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STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver

Research Technologist, Protein and Antibody Technologies
STEMCELL Technologies

Research Technologist, Neuroscience
STEMCELL Technologies

Research Technologist, Cell Separation
STEMCELL Technologies

Quality Control Specialist, Operations
STEMCELL Technologies

Senior Conference Associate
STEMCELL Technologies

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Project Manager
AbCellera

Research Associate II, *In Vitro* Biology
Zymeworks

Postdoctoral Research Fellow
UBC

Research and Innovation Manager, Data Science
Genome BC

Principal Scientist, Domain Discovery and Engineering Group Leader
Amgen

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