

Publications of the Week

Pulse Labeling Reveals the Tail End of Protein Folding by Proteome Profiling

First Author: Mang Zhu | Senior Author: Thiebault Mayor (pictured)
Cell Reports | Michael Smith Laboratories and UBC



Accurate and efficient folding of nascent protein sequences into their native states requires support from the protein homeostasis network. The authors probe which newly translated proteins are thermo-sensitive, making them susceptible to misfolding and aggregation under heat stress using pulse-stable isotope labeling with amino acids in cell culture mass spectrometry. They find a distinct group of proteins that is highly sensitive to this perturbation when newly synthesized but not once matured. [Abstract](#)

Understanding COVID-19-Associated Coagulopathy

First Author: Edward Conway (pictured) | Senior Author: James Morrissey
Nature Reviews Immunology | Centre for Blood Research and Life Sciences Institute



COVID-19-associated coagulopathy (CAC) is a life-threatening complication of SARS-CoV-2 infection. However, the underlying cellular and molecular mechanisms driving this condition are unclear. Evidence supports the concept that CAC involves complex interactions between the innate immune response, the coagulation and fibrinolytic pathways, and the vascular endothelium, resulting in a procoagulant condition. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

New CoVarRR-Net Funding Supports LSI Research in New and Emerging Treatments for SARS-CoV-2 Infection

Life Sciences Institute (LSI)



As Canada tackles its 7th COVID-19 wave, research network CoVarr-Net funded 15 new studies to examine solutions to Omicron and other variants. Dr. Francois Jean (pictured), lead of Pillar 10: Antiviral Strategies and Antiviral Therapeutics, has been designated project lead of "Therapeutic Approaches and Emerging Therapies for SARS-CoV-2 VOCs: Mono or Combination Therapy, Mechanisms, and Antiviral Resistance." [Read More](#)

NMIN Trainees Win All Three Poster Awards at LRD 2022

NanoMedicines Innovation Network (NMIN)



NMIN has announced the trainees who won all three of the poster awards granted at Liposome Research Days 2022. Yulin Mo from the University of Toronto (pictured, left), Dr. Miffy Cheng (centre), and Jerry Leung (right) (both at UBC) were the presenting authors of the posters judged to be of best quality at the event. The three posters were among a total of eight selected in advance for oral presentation, based on scientific merit and interest, out of a total of 72 submissions. [Read More](#)

Dr. Nadine Caron Awarded Order of BC for 2022

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Dr. Nadine Caron (pictured), a UBC Faculty of Medicine Professor and internationally renowned health leader who is committed to addressing inequities in access to health care and to improving clinical outcomes for Indigenous Peoples, is among the new appointees to the Order of BC for 2022. Dr. Caron, a member of the Sagamok Anishnawbek First Nation and a surgical oncologist in northern BC, is a Professor in UBC's Northern Medical Program and Department of Surgery. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Research Answers Questions about Infusion Pumps' Effect on Red Blood Cells

Centre for Blood Research



A study involving Centre for Blood Research and Canadian Blood Services researchers Drs. Narges Hadjesfandiari and Dana Devine (pictured) is helping to answer questions about the effect of infusion pumps on red blood cells and make it easier to evaluate the safety of these pumps for this use. Infusion pumps are mechanical devices commonly used in transfusion medicine that were originally designed to administer fluid resuscitation products, like saline and other crystalloids. [Read More](#)

Lessons in Leadership — A Q&A with Pascal Spothelfer, President and CEO of Genome BC

Genome BC



As he heads into his final month as President and CEO of Genome BC, Pascal Spothelfer (pictured) hasn't taken his foot off the gas. He has been busy preparing Genome BC for a leadership transition to incoming President and CEO Suzanne Gill, speaking about the expansion of scientific research and biomedical technology and the role of Genome BC in an appearance on the Conversations that Matter podcast, and he was also named as a finalist for the BC Tech Association's Person of the Year award. [Read More](#)

Meet Dr. Alexandra Williams

Pathways



Spinal cord injuries put people at much higher risk for heart disease over their lifetime. Dr. Alexandra Williams (pictured), a postdoctoral fellow in clinical cardiovascular physiology at UBC's International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries, is studying the link between the cardiovascular and nervous systems to understand how we can use innovative treatments that target the heart to improve outcomes among individuals with spinal cord injury. [Read More](#)

Receptor FIBCD1 Newly Identified in Neurodevelopmental Disorders

Life Sciences Institute



A multidisciplinary study led by Drs. Vanja Nagy and Josef Penninger (pictured) characterized a novel gene, known as *FIBCD1*, to be likely causative of a new and rare neurodevelopmental disorder. Using data from two young patients with neurological symptoms, the researchers found evidence of a novel function for the *FIBCD1* gene in the brain, and a potentially pivotal role in diseases such as autism, ADHD, schizophrenia, and neurodegenerative disorders including Alzheimer's. [Read More](#)

DMCBH Trainee Spotlight: Ali Mirza

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH)



Ali Mirza (pictured) is working on his PhD in Dr. Helen Tremlett's lab and is co-supervised by Dr. William Hsiao. His project is focused on the gut microbiome in multiple sclerosis (MS) and involves integrating computer science to explore the role the gut microbiome plays in MS. His work is funded by the endMS Personal Award from the MS Society of Canada. [Read More](#)

A Marker for High Risk Aneurysms

Centre for Heart Lung Innovation (HLI)



Dr. Stephanie Sellers (pictured), along with international team members from UBC, the University of Edinburgh, and the University of Liverpool, explored whether microscopic calcification, which is formed in areas of the body under stress, could be used as a marker of those with high-risk aortic aneurysms. The team found that in mild aneurysm disease there is a rise in microscopic calcification, but in severe disease — when the aneurysm is very weak — this calcification is lost. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

NSERC Initiatives Geared at Mobilizing Knowledge on a Global Scale

Research Money



The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) is an active member of the Global Research Council, which includes the heads of science and engineering funding agencies from around the world. As NSERC's President, Dr. Alejandro Adem (pictured) has had the privilege of not only witnessing the benefits that come from international collaborations, but also the growing recognition that such partnerships represent the foundation of research excellence in the 21st century. [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
- August 17 11:00 AM **Strengthening Health Sciences Research Design with Gender-Based Analysis**
Online
- August 18 1:30 PM **Developing a Long-Term IP Strategy**
SFU VentureLabs
- August 25 12:30 PM **NMIN HQP Research Presentations**
Online

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