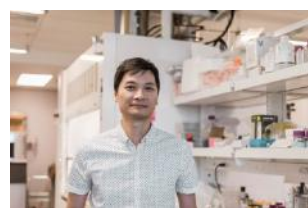


Publications of the Week

Hepatocyte-Targeted Delivery of Imiquimod Reduces Hepatitis B Virus Surface Antigen

First Author: Nojoud Fayed | Senior Author: Shyh-Dar Li *(pictured)*
Journal of Controlled Release | UBC



Interferon- α (IFN- α) is included in the standard treatment for chronic hepatitis B. However, this therapy causes serious side effects. Delivering IFN- α selectively to the liver may enhance its efficacy and safety. The authors demonstrated the use of lipid-based nanoparticles to deliver imiquimod and increase the production of IFN- α in the liver. [Abstract](#)

A Similarity Scaling Approach for Organ-on-Chip Devices

First Author: James Feng | Senior Author: Sarah Hedtrich *(pictured)*
Lab on a Chip | UBC



Organ-on-chip devices (OoCs) provide more nuanced insights into (patho)physiological processes of the human body than static tissue models, and are currently the most promising approach to emulating human (patho)physiology *in vitro*. OoC designs vary greatly and questions remain as to how to maximize biomimicry and clinical translatability of the *in vitro* findings. [Abstract](#)

Using Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell-Derived Cardiomyocytes to Understand the Mechanisms Driving Cardiomyocyte Maturation

First Author: Homa Hamledari | Senior Author: Glen Tibbits *(pictured)*
Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine | SFU, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute, and UBC



Human induced pluripotent stem cell-derived cardiomyocytes (hiPSC-CMs) provide a personalized platform to study inherited heart diseases, drug-induced cardiac toxicity, and cardiac regenerative therapy. The major findings and limitations of current maturation methodologies to enhance the utility of hiPSC-CMs in the battle against a major source of morbidity and mortality are reviewed. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Dr. Fabio Rossi Elected to the Royal Society of Canada

Centre for Blood Research



Dr. Fabio Rossi *(pictured)* is among 102 new Fellows elected to the Royal Society of Canada in recognition of his outstanding scholarly and scientific achievement. He is a Professor at the School of Biomedical Engineering and Department of Medical Genetics, and member of the Centre for Blood Research. Dr. Rossi is one of two new UBC faculty of medicine inductees. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Dr. Kelly Brown Leads Evaluation of the Utility of Adult-Defined Biomarkers in Pediatric Vasculitis

Centre for Blood Research



Researchers that study vasculitis in adults have found a few biomarkers in the blood and/or urine that can help predict which patients are at higher risk of developing severe disease. Dr. Kelly Brown *(pictured)* is evaluating whether the prognostic biomarkers identified for vasculitis in adults can also be used to help inform treatment decisions for children with vasculitis. [Read More](#)

Trainee Profile: Mikey Jose

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Mikey Jose *(pictured)* is a PhD student in Dr. Silke Appel-Cresswell's lab at the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health. The institute caught up with Mikey to learn more about his research and interests. He discusses why he's pursuing a degree in neuroscience and his research aiming to understand the underlying mechanisms of receptive music-based interventions towards alleviating lack of interest or apathy in Parkinson's disease. [Read More](#)

Trainee Profile: Karina Thiessen

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Karina Thiessen *(pictured)* is a PhD student in Dr. Christian Schütz's lab at the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health. The institute caught up with Karina to learn more about her research and future plans. She discusses her interest in neuroscience and her research exploring risk factors and treatment of substance use and mental health disorders. [Read More](#)

BEST Presidency a Full-Circle Moment for Dr. Dana Devine

Centre for Blood Research



Dr. Dana Devine *(pictured)*, the Director of the Centre for Blood Research and Canadian Blood Services Chief Scientist, will commence her four-year term as President of the Biomedical Excellence for Safer Transfusion (BEST) Collaborative this September, two decades after she attended her first meeting with the international research organization. [Read More](#)

Algeron Pharmaceuticals Receives Approval for Groundbreaking Phase 1 DMT Human Stroke Study

Algeron Pharmaceuticals



Algeron Pharmaceuticals, a clinical stage pharmaceutical development company, has announced that it has received approval to conduct a Phase 1 clinical study of an intravenous formulation of AP-188 (or DMT) for the treatment of stroke in the Netherlands from the Stichting Beoordeling Ethiek Biomedisch Onderzoek. The trial will be conducted at the Centre for Human Drug Research in Leiden. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- September 21
2:00 pm **UBC Healthy Aging Seminar**
Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health & Online
- September 22 - 23
7:30 am **Skunkworks: Hacking Wounds**
Holiday Inn & Suites Vancouver Downtown
- September 22 - 23
8:00 am **22nd Annual Healthcare Summit**
Coast Coal Harbour Hotel
- September 22
5:00 pm **24th Annual Life Sciences BC Awards Presented by Farris**
Vancouver Convention Centre West
- October 6
4:30 pm **From R&D to Commercialization: IP Essentials for Life Sciences Companies Presented by Gowling WLG**
Rosewood Georgia Hotel

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- Research Programmer, Bioinformatics Technology Lab**
Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre

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