

Publications of the Week
CD56^{bright}CD16⁻ Natural Killer Cells as an Important Regulatory Mechanism in Chronic Graft-versus-Host Disease

 First Author: Madeline Lauener | Senior Author: Kirk Schultz *(pictured)*
 Haematologica | BC Children's Hospital Research Institute and UBC


Chronic graft-versus-host disease (cGVHD) is a major cause of morbidity after hematopoietic stem cell transplantation. The authors aimed to isolate and define the characteristics of natural killer (NK)_{reg} cells associated with suppression of cGVHD. Immunophenotypic evaluation of a large pediatric population found the CD56^{bright} NK population associated with a lack of cGVHD to be perforin⁻, Granzyme B⁻, and CD335⁺. [Abstract](#)

Sex Differences in Inflammation in the Hippocampus and Amygdala across the Lifespan in Rats: Associations with Cognitive Bias

 First Author: Travis Hodges | Senior Author: Lisa Galea *(pictured)*
 Immunity & Ageing | Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health and UBC


Given the association of cognitive bias to neurogenesis and inflammation, the authors examined associations between cognitive bias, neurogenesis in the hippocampus, and cytokine and chemokine levels in the ventral hippocampus and basolateral amygdala of male and female rats across the lifespan. Their findings lay the groundwork for the discovery of sex-specific novel therapeutics that target region-specific inflammation in the brain and hippocampal neurogenesis. [Abstract](#)

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Awards
CBR Scientists Receive Federal Support to Advance mRNA Vaccine Technologies

The Centre for Blood Research (CBR)



UBC Faculty of Medicine and Centre for Blood Research scientists received \$11.1 million for two new projects to advance mRNA vaccine technologies and boost the impact of BC biotechnology on the global stage. Dr. Leonard Foster's project will improve the delivery technology behind mRNA vaccines and other nanomedicines and Dr. Natalie Strynadka's *(pictured)* project will advance *in vitro* and *in situ* antiviral therapy for SARS-CoV-2 variants. [Read More](#)

Using Health Research to Improve Health: Our 2022 Convening & Collaborating and Reach Awardees

Michael Smith Health Research BC



The Michael Smith Health Research BC 2022 Convening & Collaborating and Reach awards support 31 knowledge translation research teams that are creating pathways from research evidence to impact, and helping to ensure that cutting-edge research can directly improve the health of people and communities in BC and its health system. One team lead is Dr. Carolyn Sparrey *(pictured)*, Director of the SFU Neurospine Lab and Scientific Director of SFU's ImageTech Lab. [Read More](#)

Acuitas Therapeutics President & CEO Dr. Thomas Madden Receives BIOTECanada Award for 'Game Changing Leadership'

T-Net



Acuitas Therapeutics has announced that Dr. Thomas Madden *(pictured)*, the company's President & CEO, has received BIOTECanada's 2022 Gold Leaf Award in the Game Changing Industry Leadership category. The Gold Leaf Awards celebrate innovation and entrepreneurship within the Canadian biotech industry across all industry categories including health, agricultural, industrial, and environmental biotechnology. [Read More](#)

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Local News
Pieter Cullis: A Nobel Prize-Worthy Lifetime of Work

Business in Vancouver



Dr. Pieter Cullis *(pictured)* does not want to jinx his chance of winning a Nobel Prize by discussing the possibility. The 76-year-old UBC Emeritus Professor's work was essential in helping Pfizer and BioNTech create a COVID-19 vaccine that has been injected into more than one billion people, perhaps saving millions of lives. The biochemistry and molecular biology researcher's work with lipid nanoparticles has helped him rack up plenty of awards and gain international recognition. [Read More](#)

Working to Make Childhood Cancer Recurrence a Thing of the Past: Q&A with BRAvE Researchers

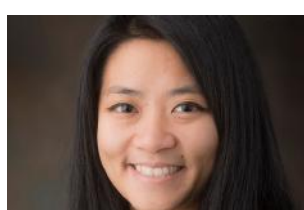
BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



The Better Responses through Avatars and Evidence (BRAvE) Initiative at BC Children's Hospital is using cutting-edge research to revolutionize precision treatments for children with cancer. The BRAvE team seeks to increase the number of children who can benefit from treatments targeted at attributes of individual tumours, battle hard-to-treat cancers, and reduce long-term health impacts. Drs. Philipp Lange and James Lim *(pictured)* discuss BRAvE and the team's recent innovations. [Read More](#)

CBR Alumni Spotlight: Eva Yap Is Inspiring Youth through Science Outreach and Education

The Centre for Blood Research (CBR)



Eva Yap *(pictured)*, a CBR alumnus, is creating programs and opportunities for youth to get excited about science. As an Outreach Programs Coordinator in SFU's Faculty of Applied Sciences, Eva oversees a variety of science programs aimed at youth from K-12. She talks about her career path — from her MSc in the Karsan lab, to her post-grad job search, to developing outreach programs for kids today. [Read More](#)

Science Spotlight on IMAGINE: Diagnosing Genetic and Metabolic Causes of Cerebral Palsy

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



Diagnosis Using Integrated Metabolomics And Genomics in Neurodevelopment (IMAGINE) is a research project at BC Children's Hospital led by Drs. Jan Friedman and Clara van Karnebeek *(pictured)*. It is part of the CHILD-BRIGHT Network, a Canadian patient-oriented research network working to improve the futures of children and youth with brain-based developmental disabilities and their families. The network was recently awarded \$3.75 million dollars from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. [Read More](#)

The Value Proposition of Biotechs with Platform Technologies

Business in Vancouver



Investing in biotech can be a bit like playing roulette. You can bet a single number (i.e. a bespoke biopharma company focused on a single drug candidate or class of drugs) and hope your number comes up for a 35-to-one payout. Or you can bet a dozen numbers at a time. From an investor's perspective, life sciences companies with technology platforms or discovery engines are a bit like betting dozens. [Read More](#)

New Vision Cluster Aims to Shape the Future of Vision and Brain Research

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH)



The UBC Research Excellence Cluster in Vision: Molecules, Behaviour, Society ("Vision Cluster") aims to shape the future of vision and brain research by connecting a network of diverse vision and brain researchers with scientific experts in cutting-edge technologies. The Vision Cluster is led by Dr. Joanne Matsubara *(pictured)*, who is a member of the DMCBH and a Professor in the Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

October 19 12:00 PM	WIP Seminar: Dr. Annalijn Conklin St. Paul's Hospital & Online
October 25 4:00 PM	The Future of Regenerative Medicine Pan Pacific Hotel
October 26 11:00 AM	Know Your Payers: Will Insurers Pay for Your Health Technology? Online
November 2-3 9:00 AM	Invest in BC Presented by Lumira Ventures Online
November 3-6 6:00 PM	9th TFRI Scientific Meeting Vancouver Convention Centre

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