

Publications of the Week

### Integrative Analysis of KRAS Wildtype Metastatic Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma Reveals Mutation and Expression-Based Similarities to Cholangiocarcinoma

First Authors: James Topham, Erica Tsang, and Joanna Karasinska | Senior Authors: David Schaeffer and Daniel Renouf (pictured)  
Nature Communications | Pancreas Centre BC, BC Cancer, Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre, Vancouver General Hospital, and UBC



Oncogenic KRAS mutations are absent in approximately ten percent of patients with metastatic pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (mPDAC) and may represent a subgroup of mPDAC with therapeutic options beyond standard-of-care cytotoxic chemotherapy. The authors leverage sequencing data from the PanGen trial to perform comprehensive characterization of the molecular landscape of KRAS wildtype mPDAC and reveal increased frequency of chr1q amplification encompassing transcription factors PROX1 and NR5A2. [Abstract](#)

### Mortality by Ribosomal Sequencing Provides a Window into Taxon-Specific Cell Lysis

First Author: Kevin Xu Zhong | Senior Author: Curtis Suttle (pictured)  
The ISME Journal | UBC



The composition of marine microbial communities is highly dynamic, spatially and temporally, with consequent effects on their functional roles. In part, these changes in composition result from viral lysis, which is taxon-specific and estimated to account for about half of marine microbial mortality. The authors show that extracellular ribosomal RNA (rRNA<sub>ext</sub>) is produced by viral lysis, and that specific lysed populations can be identified by sequencing rRNA<sub>ext</sub> recovered from seawater samples. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

### Dr. Connie Eaves Elected to National Academy of Medicine

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Dr. Connie Eaves (pictured), a Professor in UBC's Department of Medical Genetics and the School of Biomedical Engineering, has been elected to the US National Academy of Medicine (NAM) in recognition of her transformational contributions to the field of stem cell research. Election to NAM is considered one of the highest honours in health and medicine and recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service. [Read More](#)

### Outstanding Achievement Award by a Master's Student: Dr. Kristen Favel

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



With a Bachelor of Applied Science in Chemical and Biological Engineering and a Doctor of Medicine, Dr. Kristen Favel (pictured) has recently completed a Master of Public Health and the highly competitive Clinician Investigator program at UBC. She is driven by her incredible passion for advancing research and clinical care for pediatric type 1 diabetes. [Read More](#)

### SBME PhD Student Wins 2022 Friedman Award for Scholars in Health

UBC School of Biomedical Engineering (SBME)



Matthew Hickey (pictured) is taking strides (and helping others do so) with the help of the 2022 Friedman Award for Scholars in Health. The Friedman Award for Scholars in Health supports learning and research opportunities for graduate students or medical residents working in the broad area of health, to bring new perspectives to their education, and further their career. [Read More](#)

### Master of Applied Science Student Vivian Zhang Receives Inaugural SBME Grad Outreach Award

UBC School of Biomedical Engineering (SBME)



SBME Master of Applied Science student Vivian Zhang (pictured) has received the School of Biomedical Engineering's inaugural Graduate Outreach Award. Vivian is a student in Dr. Nika Shakiba's lab. Her research focus is on understanding early embryonic development using mouse embryonic stem cells. Through this work, she hopes that an insight on the fundamental decisions that happen in early embryonic development could give us a peak into how the human embryo grows. [Read More](#)

### Drs. Teresa Liu-Ambrose, Aslam Anis, and Megan Levings Receive Faculty of Medicine Distinguished Researcher Awards

UBC Faculty of Medicine



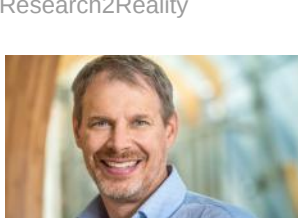
Drs. Teresa Liu-Ambrose (pictured), Aslam Anis, and Megan Levings have been awarded the 2022 Faculty of Medicine Distinguished Researcher Awards in recognition of their significant contributions to science and clinical research. Dr. Liu-Ambrose, Professor and Canada Research Chair in the Department of Physical Therapy, has been recognized for her world-class research on healthy aging and her invaluable mentorship and commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion. [Read More](#)

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Local News

### 'The Days When You Could Do Everything Are Gone'

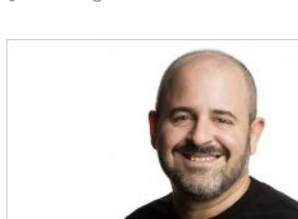
Research2Reality



Around the world, the way people approach research is changing. More than ever, researchers are tapping into each other's strengths to solve big problems. "Over the last 20 years we've seen incredible progress in new therapeutics to treat a variety of degenerative diseases and chronic diseases, including cancer," says UBC School of Biomedical Engineering Director Dr. Peter Zandstra (pictured). [Read More](#)

### Qu Biologics to Receive Additional Funding to Support Innovative New Treatment to Restore Innate Immune Function in the Elderly

Qu Biologics



Qu Biologics is receiving advisory services and research and development funding of up to \$6,659,050 from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program to support the implementation and completion of a Phase II randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trial of QBKPN site-specific immunomodulator. "This trial, if successful, would be transformative, says Dr. Ted Steiner (pictured), Qu Biologics' Chief Medical Officer, Infectious Diseases. [Read More](#)

### Enhancing Ovarian Cancer Diagnostics Using AI Technology

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



Ovarian cancer impacts over 3,100 Canadian women each year, making it the most lethal of all female reproductive cancers. A new study led by Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute researcher Dr. Ali Bashashati (pictured) is using artificial intelligence (AI) to aid pathologists in the diagnosis of ovarian cancer to improve patient outcomes. [Read More](#)

### Science Takes Courage to Explore the Unknown: MD/PhD Student Rohit Singla on the Amplitude Fellowship and Growth through Challenge

UBC School of Biomedical Engineering



Rohit Singla's (pictured) CV boasts a cornucopia of experience. He is a co-founder of two medical companies and a film industry-catering app, did research in a robotics laboratory, screenwrites, and is now supplementing his Bachelor of Applied Science in Computer Engineering and Master of Applied Science in Biomedical Engineering through the combined MD/PhD Program. And Rohit is still not ready to slow his pace just yet. [Read More](#)

### Thrombosis Is a Common Complication in the Cancer Journey

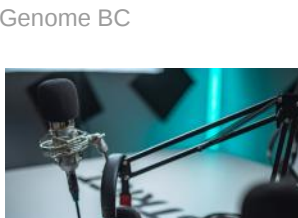
CHEOS



Thrombosis is a condition in which blood clots block the flow of blood. With approximately one in 200 patients diagnosed with cancer experiencing thrombosis and many dying due to venous thromboembolism, CHEOS Scientist Dr. Aggie Lee (pictured) has dedicated much of her research program to understanding, preventing, and treating this serious complication. [Read More](#)

### Nice Genes! — a Genome BC Podcast — Returns for Season 2

Genome BC



Nice Genes! — a podcast by Genome BC — will take a closer look at recent scientific discoveries through the lens of genomics. Host Dr. Kaylee Byers, a self-described "rat detective" and science communicator, guides science-curious listeners to answer fundamental conundrums and questions. "This season offers exciting conversations about what's happening now and what's coming soon in science and medicine, thanks to genomics," says Dr. Byers. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

### How Canadian Biotech Can Lead in the Solutions of the Future

TheFutureEconomy.ca



Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, a core strength of the biotechnology sector was the solutions the sector brings to the challenge of a global population moving quickly to nine or ten billion people and the imperative of finding ways to fundamentally alter how we grow, manufacture, cure and fuel our economies and societies. While policymakers generally understood the sector's overall strategic value, there was no real urgency to establish the right public policy conditions to support the sector's growth and competitiveness. [Read More](#)

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### Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- 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**  
TFRI Convention Centre
- November 17 9:00 AM **Vancouver Diabetes Research Day 2022**  
BC Children's Hospital Research Institute

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### STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver


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STEMCELL Technologies
- SCIENTIST, Analytical Development**  
STEMCELL Technologies
- Senior Quality Assurance Specialist**  
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- Manufacturing Technologist, Labs**  
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### Other Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Research Manager, Department of Anesthesiology**  
Providence Health Care
- Research Associate**  
ICORD
- Principal Investigator**  
AbCellera
- Scientist, Biologics**  
Chinook Therapeutics
- Research Associate, Large Molecule Characterization**  
adMare Bioinnovations

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