

Publications of the Week

Smart Thrombosis Inhibitors Without Bleeding Side Effects via Charge Tunable Ligand Design

First Author: Chanel La | Senior Author: Jayachandran Kizhakkedathu (pictured)
Nature Communications | Life Sciences Institute and UBC



Current treatments to prevent thrombosis, namely anticoagulants and platelets antagonists, remain complicated by the persistent risk of bleeding. The authors report a design concept towards polyP inhibition, termed macromolecular polyanion inhibitors (MPI), with high binding affinity and specificity. The lead MPI candidate demonstrates antithrombotic activity in mouse models of thrombosis, does not give rise to bleeding, and is well tolerated in mice even at very high doses. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

Microbial Endocrinology: The Mechanisms by Which the Microbiota Influences Host Sex Steroids

First Author: Sophie Cotton | Senior Author: Carolina Tropini (pictured)
Trends in Microbiology | UBC



Estrogens and androgens are sex steroid hormones that are critical for animal development and homeostasis. Microbes within the gut can produce, degrade, and modify sex steroids (both estrogens and androgens) in quantities that are biologically significant and affect host physiology. Microbe-induced changes to active systemic hormone levels are significant enough to provoke or ameliorate disease. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Graduate Student Awarded the CIHR Vanier Scholarship 2023

Vancouver Prostate Centre



Zakir Tahiry (pictured), a PhD student at the Vancouver Prostate Centre under the supervision of Dr. Mads Dagaard, was awarded with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Vanier Scholarship. The Vanier program awards world class doctoral students who demonstrate leadership skills and a high standard of scholarly achievement. [Read More](#)

Dr. Anna Blakney and Collaborators Awarded New Frontiers in Research Fund Grant

Michael Smith Laboratories (MSL)



MSL faculty member Dr. Anna Blakney (pictured) and collaborators have received support from the New Frontiers in Research Fund for a novel project which aims to develop new treatment approaches for neurodegenerative disorders such Alzheimer's, stroke, and epilepsy. The funding program supports global innovation and encourages a high degree of interdisciplinary collaboration. [Read More](#)

UBC Leading High-Risk, High-Reward Interdisciplinary Research Supported by New Frontiers in Research Fund Competitions

UBC Research & Innovation



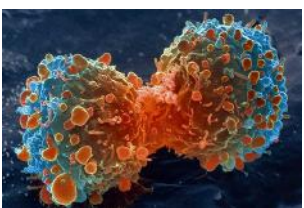
The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, and the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Health, announced more than \$200 million in support for Canadian-led interdisciplinary, international, high-risk and high-reward research through the New Frontiers in Research Fund. Drs. François Bénard (pictured) and Caterina Ramogida's project aims to use rare isotopes to transform cancer therapy. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Nuclear Medicine Startup Abdera Lands \$142M

Business in Vancouver



Abdera Therapeutics, a Vancouver biopharma startup specializing in the treatment of cancer with radioisotopes, has landed \$142 million in Series A and B financing, just a couple of years after the company was formed. Abdera was launched in early 2021 with the help of life sciences accelerator adMare BioInnovations, which provided \$8 million in seed financing. [Read More](#)

Pan-Biome Pharmaceuticals Reports Positive Results in a Preclinical Trial of Colitis

Pan-Biome Pharmaceuticals



Pan-Biome Pharmaceuticals, a Vancouver-based preclinical biopharmaceutical company focused on age-related diseases and extending human healthspan, has announced that its lead compound exhibited protective effects in a preclinical model of inflammatory colitis. The compound activates anti-inflammatory cytokine interleukin (IL)-10 and inhibits the major pro-inflammatory cytokines tumor necrosis factor-α, IL-1β, and IL-6. [Read More](#)

Freeing Parkinson's Patients from Depressive Symptoms

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



A novel technique used to treat depression has shown promise as a means of helping relieve some of the symptoms of Parkinson's disease, according to the preliminary findings of the ongoing Magnetic Seizure Therapy for Parkinson's Disease clinical trial. "Parkinson's affects parts of the frontal cortex that modulate mood and energy levels, among other areas of the autonomic nervous system," explains Dr. Fidel Vila-Rodriguez (pictured), study lead and researcher at the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health. [Read More](#)

Brain Imaging Research Brings New Hope for People with Life-Altering Condition

Michael Smith Health Research BC



Over 77,000 people in BC are estimated to have myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME), and most of these are women. There's no single known cause for ME, but it often follows a flu-like illness. People with ME experience a range of symptoms, including extreme fatigue, pain, disrupted sleep, and neuro-cognitive challenges. Kati Debelic, an ME patient, and researchers Drs. Xiaowei Song (pictured) and Luis Nacul wanted to find out whether ME symptoms derive from physical changes in the brain. [Read More](#)

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[📅](#) Upcoming Events in Vancouver

May 3
9:00 AM

Genome BC's Annual Genomics Forum 2023
Online

May 9
8:00 AM

Celebrating 20 Years of Research Excellence
Paetzold Auditorium

May 9
6:00 PM

Networking+ Night: Boost Your Professional Presence
SFU VentureLabs

May 13
11:00 AM

Science Rendezvous with SFU Science
SFU Academic Quadrangle 3000 Level

May 19
8:30 AM

StemCellTalks Vancouver - Stem Cell Engineering: A Promising Tool for Regenerative Medicine
Life Sciences Institute

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[STEMCELL Technologies](#)

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[STEMCELL Technologies](#)

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[STEMCELL Technologies](#)

Technologist, Pluripotent Stem Cell Core Facility
[STEMCELL Technologies](#)

Program Administrator
[STEMCELL Technologies](#)

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[📁](#) Other Science Jobs in Vancouver

Research Associate, Personalized OncoGenomics Program
Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre

Research Assistant /Technician 4
UBC

Applied Scientist
AbCellera

QC Associate
Cytiva

Immunology / Molecular Biology / Data Informatics Co-op
Amgen

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