

Publications of the Week

Deconvolution of Clinical Variance in CAR T Cell Pharmacology and Response

First Author: Daniel Kirouac (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Peter Zandstra
Nature Biotechnology | Notch Therapeutics and Michael Smith Laboratories



Chimeric antigen receptor T cell (CAR T) expansion and persistence vary widely among patients and predict both efficacy and toxicity. However, the mechanisms underlying clinical outcomes and patient variability are poorly defined. The authors developed a mathematical description of T cell responses wherein transitions among memory, effector, and exhausted T cell states are coordinately regulated by tumour antigen engagement. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

RNA Modifications in Hematological Malignancies

First Author: Zhen Jin | Senior Author: Ly Vu (*pictured*)
International Journal of Hematology | Terry Fox Laboratory, BC Cancer, and UBC



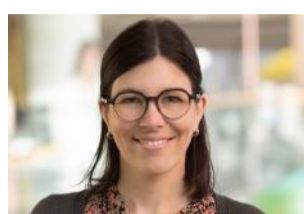
RNA modifications play an important role in various cancers including blood cancers by controlling gene expression programs critical for survival, proliferation, and differentiation of cancer cells. With development of enabling technologies to identify and map RNA modifications, tremendous advancement has been made in our understanding of the biological functions of these molecular markers in diverse cellular contexts. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Investigator Awards 2023 Recipients

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



The Investigator Awards provide salary support to leading health research investigators in order to help expand their capacity for innovation-driven research that can lead to new health care knowledge. Dr. Raphaële Charest-Morin (*pictured*), Assistant Professor in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at UBC, is developing biomarkers that can detect the presence of circulating tumour cell DNA (debris) in individuals with spinal bone tumours before and after they undergo surgery. [Read More](#)

SLAS Announced \$100,000 Graduate Education Fellowship Grant Awarded to Samuel G. Berryman, PhD Candidate in Dr. Ma Lab

UBC Centre for Blood Research



The Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS) is pleased to announce Samuel Berryman (*pictured*), a PhD candidate in the Department of Mechanical Engineering from UBC, as the 2023 SLAS Graduate Education Fellowship Grant recipient. "I feel extremely grateful and enthusiastic to have been chosen as the recipient of the SLAS fellowship," says Berryman. [Read More](#)

Faculty Research Award Winners 2022

UBC Office of Research Prizes & Awards



UBC is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2022 Faculty Research Awards. Dr. Cara Haney (*pictured*) received a Killam Research Fellowship, which enables her to pursue full-time research during a recognized study leave. The Office of the VP, Research, and Innovation will be hosting a reception on June 6, 2023 to acknowledge the achievements of its researchers. [Read More](#)

Faculty of Medicine Members Nominated for 2023 YWCA Women of Distinction Awards

UBC Medicine



UBC Faculty of Medicine community members Drs. Silke Cresswell (*pictured*), Angela Devlin, Connie Eaves, and Evelyn Stewart are among the nominees for the 40th annual YWCA Metro Vancouver's Women of Distinction Awards. The awards recognize individuals for their outstanding contributions to the well-being of communities across Metro Vancouver. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Honing In on Precision Treatments for Endometriosis

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



Often called an invisible disease, endometriosis can have a significant negative impact on a person's physical and mental health. Prior research has aided in the classification of several distinct types of endometriosis. New research led by Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute researcher Dr. Michael Anglesio (*pictured*) and published in the journal *Fertility and Sterility* has expanded the understanding of the disease to include a much broader array of mutations. [Read More](#)

AbCellera and RQ Bio Partner to Accelerate the Advancement of New Therapies for Infectious Disease

AbCellera



AbCellera and RQ Bio have announced that they have entered into a strategic collaboration to identify optimal clinical candidates for up to three infectious disease targets selected by RQ Bio, including influenza and cytomegalovirus. The partnership aims to provide long-lasting infectious diseases medicines to high-risk patients by bringing together RQ Bio's expertise in infectious diseases and viral evolution with AbCellera's discovery engine for finding rare, highly potent antibodies. [Read More](#)

How Are COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines Linked to the Gut Microbiome and Dietary Fibre Intake?

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



Dr. Genelle Lunken (formerly Healey) (*pictured*) is a microbiome investigator at BC Children's Hospital and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at UBC. Dr. Lunken recently led a study looking at COVID-19 vaccination and its association with the gut microbiome and dietary fibre intake. The team, led by Drs. Lunken, Pascal Lavoie, and Bruce Vallance, found that the gut microbiome changed as a result of receiving the Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA vaccine for COVID-19. [Read More](#)

Always Adapting to Improve Care: Meet Dr. Srinivas Murthy

CHÉOS



Meet pediatric infectious disease and critical care doctor Dr. Srinivas Murthy, CHÉOS' newest scientist. "I've always asked questions about how things can be done better in health care," he said. "Not just locally but also globally, by understanding how we can improve practice to save the most lives." Dr. Murthy's interest in physiology and infectious diseases drew him to both treating patients and conducting research to improve their care. [Read More](#)

Government of Canada Invests over \$25.7 Million to Fuel Innovation and Economic Growth in Vancouver

Government of Canada



To support BC's boldest and brightest changemakers, the Government of Canada is making strategic investments in local organizations that are catalysts for Canada-made innovation with a growing global demand. The Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan, Minister of International Development and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada, announced an investment of over \$25.7 million to help ten Vancouver-based organizations fuel the BC economy, create jobs, and develop products that improve lives. [Read More](#)

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 **Upcoming Events in Vancouver**

- March 28
9:00 AM

BIG Research Day
Life Sciences Institute
- March 28
5:00 PM

Implementing & Maintaining Women's Employee Resource Groups
SFU VentureLabs
- March 31
12:30 PM

Unlocking Nature's Potential: Using Genomics for Understanding and Benefiting from Biodiversity
Online
- April 17
12:00 PM

Novel Methods for Equitable People-Centred Health Measurement
St. Paul's Hospital & Online
- April 27
8:00 PM

Science of Cocktails
Science World

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 **STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver**

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- Program Manager, Contract Assay Services Operations**
[STEMCELL Technologies](#)
- Senior Manager, Process Development**
[STEMCELL Technologies](#)
- Research Associate Fellowship, Lung Biology**
[STEMCELL Technologies](#)

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 **Other Science Jobs in Vancouver**

- Research Scientist, Biomaterials**
Aspect Biosystems
- Research Associate II, Analytics (Mass Spectrometry)**
Zymeworks
- Associate Scientist, Method Development (CMC)**
AbCellera
- Neuroscience Lab Teaching Technician**
UBC
- Field Applications Analyst II**
Beckman Coulter Diagnostics

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