Volume 7.14: April 17, 2023

Publications of the Week

Hic1 Identifies a Specialized Mesenchymal Progenitor Population in the Embryonic Limb Responsible for Bone Superstructure Formation

First Author: Martin Arostegui | Senior Author: T. Michael Underhill *(pictured)*
Cell Reports | UBC

Within the appendicular skeleton, the authors show that a subset of mesenchymal progenitors (MPs), identified by *Hic1*, do not contribute to the primary cartilaginous anlagen but represent the MP population, whose progeny directly contribute to the interfaces that connect bone to tendon (entheses), tendon to muscle (myotendinous junctions), and the associated superstructures. **Abstract**

Kinetics of Blood Cell Differentiation During Hematopoiesis Revealed by Quantitative Long-Term Live Imaging

First Authors: Kevin Yueh Lin Ho and Rosalyn Leigh Carr | Senior Author: Guy Tanentzapf *(pictured)*
eLife | British Columbia Children's Hospital and UBC

The authors describe a long-term organ culture and imaging strategy for hematopoiesis in flies that takes advantage of powerful genetic and transgenic tools available in this system. They find that fly blood progenitors undergo symmetric cell divisions and that their division is both linked to cell size and is spatially oriented. **Abstract**

Current State and Future of Polygenic Risk Scores in Cardiometabolic Disease: A Scoping Review

First Author: Jobanjit Phulka | Senior Author: Zachary Laksman *(pictured)*
Circulation: Genomic and Precision Medicine | Centre for Heart Lung Innovation and UBC

A polygenic risk score (PRS) is derived from a genome-wide association study and represents an aggregate of thousands of single-nucleotide polymorphisms that provide a baseline estimate of an individual's genetic risk for a specific disease or trait at birth. The authors provide an overview of the PRSs related to cardiometabolic disease and discuss the evidence supporting their clinical applications and limitations. **Abstract**

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Awards

Genome BC Announces $1M in Funding to Support the Advancement of Medical Research and Patient Care for British Columbians

Genome BC

Genome BC has announced $1M in funding to support four unique projects aimed at enabling discoveries to address unmet clinical healthcare needs through its Data Access, Integration, and Analysis program. Drs. Chris Ryerson and Tillie-Louise Hackett *(pictured)* will study how an individual's genes and their environmental exposure to air pollution can lead to the development of interstitial lung disease. **Read More**

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Local News

Vancouver Bioprinter Inks Multi-Billion Dollar Deal

Business in Vancouver

Aspect Biosystems and Novo Nordisk have struck a collaboration agreement to use their respective expertise to develop bioprinted tissue therapeutics to treat diabetes and obesity. Aspect Biosystems uses bioprinting technology to engineer a wide variety of specialized organ tissue, to restore the ability of people with Type 1 diabetes to produce insulin. Novo Nordisk has expertise in differentiating stem cells to replace damaged cells that can lead to disease. **Read More**

Biomarkers for Long COVID Diagnosis

Centre for Heart Lung Innovation (HLI)

The HLI's Estefanía Espín *(pictured)*, a PhD student in Dr. Scott Tebbutt's lab and a Mitacs Accelerate intern at the PROOF Centre of Excellence, recently undertook a scoping review to describe the molecular and cellular biomarkers identified to date with potential use for diagnosis or prediction of long COVID. This review was recently published in *eBioMedicine*. **Read More**

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Interesting Articles

Canadian Genomic Innovations and the Global Bioeconomy

TheFutureEconomy.ca

Is Canada ready to deliver genomic solutions to solve the world's biggest challenges? The list of challenges related to the bioeconomy is long. The need for action and innovation to address the increasing impact of climate change is urgent. A circular bioeconomy, with genomics as a key driver, offers a way forward to tackle many of these urgent issues we face today. **Read More**

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

April 20 4:00 PM	**Celebrate Research Public Lecture** St. Paul's Hospital & Online
April 27 9:00 AM	**MBB Graduate Colloquium 2023** Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre
April 27 8:00 PM	**Science of Cocktails** Science World
April 28 9:00 AM	**2023 MBIM Undergraduate Research Symposium** Michael Smith Laboratories
April 29 12:00 PM	**Day of Immunology 2023** Science World

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