

Publications of the Week

A Novel Class of Broad-Spectrum Active-Site-Directed 3C-Like Protease Inhibitors with Nanomolar Antiviral Activity Against Highly Immune-Evasive SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Subvariants

First Author: Jimena Pérez-Vargas | Senior Author: François Jean *(pictured)*
Emerging Microbes & Infections | Life Sciences Institute, Centre for Blood Research, SFU, Vancouver Prostate Centre, BC Centre for Disease Control, and UBC



Antivirals with broad coronavirus activity are important for treating high-risk individuals exposed to the constantly evolving SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern as well as emerging drug-resistant variants. The authors developed and characterized a novel class of active-site-directed 3-chymotrypsin-like protease inhibitors.

[Abstract](#)

Cleavage of 14-3-3ε by the Enteroviral 3C Protease Dampens RIG-I-Mediated Antiviral Signaling

First Author: Daniel Andrews | Senior Author: Eric Jan *(pictured)*
Life Sciences Institute, Michael Smith Laboratories, and UBC



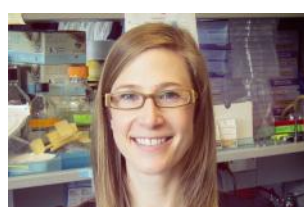
Viruses have evolved diverse strategies to evade the host innate immune response and promote infection. The retinoic acid-inducible gene I (RIG-I)-like receptors RIG-I and MDA5 are antiviral factors that sense viral RNA and trigger downstream signal via mitochondrial antiviral-signaling protein to activate type I interferon expression. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

UBC Researchers Receive \$7M to Advance Diabetes Research

UBC Faculty of Medicine



UBC Faculty of Medicine researchers have been awarded \$7 million in new funding to advance precision medicine approaches that promise to transform diabetes treatment. Drs. Elizabeth Rideout *(pictured)*, James Johnson, Dan Luciani, and Bruce Verchere will lead a project investigating the sex-specific factors that impact the ability of beta-cells to make insulin and stay healthy. [Read More](#)

Five New Research Teams Named Recipients of the 2023 Terry Fox New Frontiers Program Project Grants

Terry Fox Research Institute



Five outstanding Canadian research teams will receive a total of \$12 million to advance cancer research and treatment following new awards in the 2023 Terry Fox New Frontiers Program Project Grant (PPG) competition. Drs. William Lockwood *(pictured)* and Stephen Lam will co-lead a new PPG investigating the impact of air pollution on lung cancer. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Baby's Brain Development May Be Linked to Their Gut Bacteria

UBC Faculty of Medicine



The bacteria in a baby's gut may play a key role in the development of their young brain, according to a new study by researchers at UBC's Faculty of Medicine. The pilot study showed that levels of certain types of microbes in babies' guts were associated with performance in tests of early cognitive development. "Although this is an early exploratory study, it does provide hints that there are links between the gut and brain development in early life," said Dr. Brett Finlay *(pictured)*. [Read More](#)

Unlocking the Secrets of Single Cells to Improve Therapeutics

Michael Smith Laboratories



With recent advancements in single-cell analysis and imaging, Dr. Sabrina Leslie's *(pictured)* lab is emerging as a leader in this rapidly growing field of research. Working at the intersection of physics and biology, the lab is focused on developing a better understanding of single-cell and molecule interactions that could improve medical therapies. [Read More](#)

St. Paul's Researchers Move Closer to COPD Prevention

The Daily Scan



A research team led by Dr. Tillie Hackett *(pictured)* of the Centre for Heart Lung Innovation has identified the precise cells that destroy the lungs' smallest airways in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Their findings, recently published in the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*, build on their 2018 study that found by the time people are diagnosed with mild COPD, more than 40 per cent of their small airways are already destroyed. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- September 12 **Back to Science Slam**
7:00 PM Fox Cabaret
- September 14 **25th Annual Life Sciences BC Awards Presented by Farris**
5:00 PM Vancouver Convention Centre West
- September 21 **Pars for Prostate**
10:00 AM Westwood Plateau
- October 3-4 **Healthcare Summit: The Future of Innovation, Personalized Medicine, and Genomics**
8:00 AM Coast Coal Harbour Hotel
- October 11 **Medical Device Regulations and Guidelines**
12:00 PM Online

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Other Science Jobs in Vancouver


- Research Associate in Genomics**
UBC
- Research Technician, Protein Engineering – Mammalian Cell Culture**
AbCellera
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