

Publications of the Week

Growth Differentiation Factor Myostatin Regulates Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition Genes and Enhances Serine Protease Inhibitors E1 and E2 in Human Trophoblast Cells

First Author: Faten AbdelHafez (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Peter Leung
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology | BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



Placental insufficiency disorders, including preeclampsia and intrauterine growth restriction, are major obstetric complications that can have devastating effects on both the mother and the fetus. These syndromes have underlying poor placental trophoblast cell invasion into uterine tissues. This study provides insight into the functional consequences of cell invasion dysregulation in placental insufficiency disorders. [Abstract](#)

Association of CSF and Serum Neurofilament Light and Glial Fibrillary Acidic Protein, Injury Severity, and Outcome in Spinal Cord Injury

First Author: Sophie Stukas (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Brian Kwon
Neurology | Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health, Vancouver General Hospital, and UBC



Traumatic spinal cord injury (SCI) is highly heterogeneous, and tools to better delineate pathophysiology and recovery are needed. The objective of this study was to profile the response of two biomarkers, neurofilament light and glial fibrillary acidic protein, in the serum and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) of patients with acute SCI to evaluate their ability to objectively characterize injury severity and predict neurologic recovery. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

September 2023 Award Winners

Science in Vancouver



Dr. Laura Evgin (*pictured*), Assistant Professor in the Department of Medical Genetics at UBC, is a recipient of both the John R. Evans Leadership Fund and the B.C. Knowledge Development Fund for their project on delineating aggressive B-cell lymphomas heterogeneity and pathogenic trajectories to optimize cell-based immunotherapies. See which other Vancouver researchers received grants, awards, fellowships, and scholarships in September in our monthly award summary. [Read More](#)

Postdoctoral Fellow Sruthi Purushothaman Receives MSHR BC Research Trainee Award

Michael Smith Laboratories UBC



Postdoctoral Fellow Dr. Sruthi Purushothaman (*pictured*) has received the 2023 Michael Smith Health Research (MSHR) BC Research Trainee Award to support her research in Dr. Freda Miller's lab to explore which ingredients in a cellular environment are essential for digit tip regeneration and the role of stem cells in this process. This work fine tunes one of the most clinically relevant models of mammalian tissue regeneration. [Read More](#)

DMCBH Members Recognized with 2023 Faculty of Medicine Awards

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH)



Each year, UBC's Faculty of Medicine recognizes faculty and staff members for excellence in teaching, research, administration, innovation, and public service. Dr. Mypinder Sekhon (*pictured, left*) and Dr. Shelina Babul (*middle*) have received the 2023 Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Research, while Dr. Silke Appel-Cresswell (*right*) is the recipient of the 2023 Killam Teaching Prize. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Doctor's Orders: Speak Up and Get Screened for Prostate Cancer

Healthing



Dr. Martin Gleave (*pictured*), Professor and Chair of Urological Sciences at UBC where he is also Co-Founder and Director of the Vancouver Prostate Centre, has led the development of new treatments for prostate cancer and studied its resistance to treatment. Dr. Gleave recently published research on systemic targeted therapy that looks at genome sequencing in advanced prostate cancer and biomarkers that hold promise as therapeutic targets. [Read More](#)

BC Welcomes Canada's First Nurse Practitioner Training in Precision Health and Genomics

Genome BC



Precision health has gone from being a service offered at specialized clinics to an essential component of everyday health care. However, this integration is hindered when there is limited genomic knowledge among health care providers and educators. To bridge this gap, Genome BC is funding a pilot project to integrate genomics education into a new Master of Nursing Program. [Read More](#)

Mesentech Doses First Patients with Investigational Drug MES1022 to Accelerate Healing of Bone Fractures

BusinessWire



Mesentech, a Vancouver-based biotech company founded by Dr. Robert Young (*pictured*), is developing novel tissue-selective therapies to treat bone diseases. Mesentech announced that it has dosed the first patients in its Phase 1 study for MES1022, a bone regeneration drug which enhances efficacy and avoids systemic exposure and side-effects by selectively distributing to bony tissues. [Read More](#)

Meet the CBR Graduate Award Program Cohort 2023-24

Centre for Blood Research (CBR)



Meet the incoming CBR Graduate Award Program Cohort for 2023-24. Over the next year, these students will take part in exciting professional development activities alongside their research. Among the cohort is Juliet Kien Zam (*pictured*), a Masters student in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine working in the Côté laboratory. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

October 11 12:00 PM	Medical Device Regulations and Guidelines Online
October 12 5:00 PM	Health Innovation Series Scotiabank Theatre
October 13 9:00 AM	CMMT Research Day Chan Auditorium
October 18 12:00 PM	Advancing Health Work in Progress Seminar Online
October 20 9:00 AM	2023 Canadian Screening Consortium Symposium Halpern Centre

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