

Publications of the Week

### Nanojunctions: Specificity of Ca<sup>2+</sup> Signaling Requires Nano-Scale Architecture of Intracellular Membrane Contact Sites

First Author: Nicola Fameli and Cornelis van Breemen (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Klaus Groschner  
Cell Calcium | UBC



Spatio-temporal definition of Ca<sup>2+</sup> signals involves the assembly of signalling complexes between the sarco/endoplasmic reticulum (SR/ER) and the plasma membrane. Utilizing the Na<sup>+</sup>/Ca<sup>2+</sup> Exchanger-1 and SR/ER Ca<sup>2+</sup> ATPase-2-mediated ER Ca<sup>2+</sup> refilling process as a junctional signalling paradigm, researchers provide the first evidence for an indispensable cellular function of the junctional membrane architecture. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

### Dr. Martin Gleave Awarded with the Doctors of BC Terry Fox Medal

BC Cancer



The Doctors of BC Terry Fox Medal is awarded to outstanding individuals with a track record of making a difference in cancer care. Dr. Martin Gleave (*pictured*) from BC Cancer is the recipient of this year's prestigious award. Dr. Gleave has made outstanding contributions to global cancer research as a uniquely gifted surgeon and scientist. [Read More](#)

### PhD Student Amrita Verma Receives National ALS Trainee Award

The Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH)



The DMCBH congratulates Amrita Verma (*pictured*), a PhD student in Dr. Neil Cashman's lab, who is one of the recipients of the 2023 ALS Canada-Brain Canada Trainee Awards. "Investing in the future of ALS research means investing in the brilliant young minds who possess the insights needed to unravel the complexities of the disease," says Dr. Viviane Poupon, President and CEO of Brain Canada. [Read More](#)

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Local News

### Revolutionizing Sepsis Treatment: How Mendelian Randomization Can Help Identify Causal Relationships

UBC Action on Sepsis Research Cluster



Sepsis is the life-threatening response to an infection leading to organ dysfunction and death and affects millions of people each year worldwide. In a recent publication, Drs. James Russell (*pictured*) and Keith Walley describe how they used Mendelian randomization to determine death from sepsis is, in part, caused by an increase in clearance of low-density lipoproteins, rather than simply low levels of these droplets. [Read More](#)

### Trainee Profile: Julianne McLeod

The Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH)



Julianne McLeod (*pictured*) is a Master of Science in Rehabilitation Science student under the supervision of Dr. Naznin Virji-Babul in the Perception-Action Lab. "Understanding how the brain develops, how we process information, how we perceive the world around us, how the brain interacts with the rest of the body – it's all fascinating. I don't think I will ever get tired of asking questions about the brain," said McLeod. [Read More](#)

### Stem Cell-Based Treatment Controls Blood Sugar in People with Type 1 Diabetes

UBC Faculty of Medicine



An innovative stem cell-based treatment for Type 1 diabetes can meaningfully regulate blood glucose levels and reduce dependence on daily insulin injections, according to new clinical trial results from UBC and Vancouver Coastal Health. "This is a significant step toward a functional cure for Type 1 diabetes," said Dr. David Thompson (*pictured*), Principal Investigator at the Vancouver trial site. [Read More](#)

### Derm-Biome Pharmaceuticals Announces Collaboration with Massachusetts General Hospital in Skin Cancer Study

Financial Post



Derm-Biome Pharmaceuticals, a Vancouver based biopharmaceutical company with a focus on skin disease, has announced that it is collaborating with Dr. Anna Mandinova from the Department of Dermatology at Massachusetts General Hospital in a skin cancer study. Derm-Biome has developed a second-generation topical treatment for precancerous skin conditions. [Read More](#)

### Study Shows Potential of New Treatment Strategies for Most Common Childhood Cancer

UBC Faculty of Medicine



UBC Faculty of Medicine researchers, including Dr. Christopher Maxwell (*pictured*), at the BC Children's Hospital Research Institute have made a key discovery about how childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia evolves and responds to targeted therapies. Published in *Nature Communications*, the study found that some treatable aspects of a child's cancer that are present at diagnosis still remain if the disease returns. [Read More](#)

### adMare BioInnovations Welcomes 22 Influential Life Sciences Leaders to Cohort VI of the adMare Academy Executive Institute

adMare BioInnovations



adMare BioInnovations is pleased to welcome 22 life sciences leaders to Cohort VI of the adMare Academy's Executive Institute. The adMare Academy's high-value, high-impact talent development programs build the essential personnel needed to drive the Canadian life sciences ecosystem. The Executive Institute is an eight-month, custom-designed executive development program. [Read More](#)

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### Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- December 6 7:00 PM **Art of the Slam**  
Fox Cabaret
- December 7 5:00 PM **GrasPods Monthly Pub Night**  
Rogue Kitchen and Wetbar
- December 7 6:00 PM **Starting and Building a Career in Data**  
BrainStation Vancouver
- December 7 7:00 PM **An Evening of Merry**  
Science World
- December 14 5:00 PM **Life Sciences BC's Holiday Party**  
Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle Downtown Hotel

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### STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver

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- Quality Control Analyst, Cell Separation**  
STEMCELL Technologies
- Manager, Lab Operations, R&D**  
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- Laboratory Services Assistant**  
STEMCELL Technologies

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### Other Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Computational Biologist, Software Development**  
Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre at BC Cancer
- Assistant or Associate Professor in Food Biotechnology**  
UBC
- Lab Technician**  
Photonic
- Associate Scientist, Process Analytics**  
AbCellera
- Medical Laboratory Technologist I, Anatomical Pathology**  
BC Children's and Women's Hospital & Health Centre

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