



Publications of the Week

Single-Cell Assessment of Primary and Stem Cell-Derived Human Trophoblast Organoids As Placenta-Modeling Platforms

First Author: Matthew Shannon (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Alexander Beristain
Developmental Cell | The British Columbia Children's Hospital Research Institute and UBC



Human trophoblast stem cells (hTSCs) and related trophoblast organoids are state-of-the-art culture systems that facilitate the study of trophoblast development and human placentation. Using single-cell transcriptomics, researchers evaluate how organoids derived from freshly isolated first-trimester trophoblasts or from established hTSC cell lines reproduce developmental cell trajectories and transcriptional regulatory processes defined *in vivo*. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

The Discovery of New Sentinels on the Immune Watchtower for Cancer

First Author: Clara Wenjing Xia and Iryna Saranchova | Senior Author: Wilfred Jefferies (*pictured*)
Communications Biology | UBC



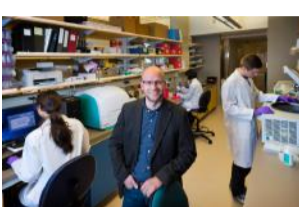
Type 2 innate lymphoid cells (ILC2s) perform vital functions in orchestrating humoral immune responses. Here, researchers utilized single cell RNA sequencing analysis to create the first comprehensive atlas of naive and tumour-associated lung ILC2s and discover multiple unique subtypes of ILC2s equipped with developmental gene programs that become skewed during tumour expansion. [Abstract](#)

[View All Publications](#)

Awards

February 2024 Award Winners

Science in Vancouver



This month, over 85 Vancouver scientists won grants, awards, fellowships, and scholarships. Dr. Christian Steidl (*pictured, centre*) received a Canadian Institutes of Health Research Grant and 2023 Canadian Cancer Society Challenge Grants Competition to improve the understanding of a rare type of lymphoma. See which other Vancouver researchers won funding and awards in February. [Read More](#)

Dr. Somasekharan Has Been Granted a \$1.12 Million USD from the DOD Award

Vancouver Prostate Centre



Dr. Syam Somasekharan (*pictured*) has been honored with the Idea Development Award - Established Investigator Award in Urologic Sciences. This was awarded by the US Department of Defense (DOD) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs for his exceptional work in identifying biomarkers and therapeutic targets for prostate cancer. [Read More](#)

Four SBME Faculty Receive Canadian Institute of Health Research Grants

UBC School of Biomedical Engineering



The School of Biomedical Engineering congratulates Drs. Carolina Tropini (*pictured*), Dena Shahriari, Nika Shakiba, and Zachary Laksman for receiving Canadian Institute of Health Research Grants for research in their respective fields. Dr. Tropini's research will address inflammatory bowel disease, which is a debilitating condition characterized by continuous inflammation. [Read More](#)

BC Cancer Researchers Recognized with 2023 Canadian Cancer Society Challenge Grants

BC Cancer Research



BC Cancer researchers congratulates recipients of the 2023 Canadian Cancer Society Challenge Grants Competition. The grants provided through the competition support cancer research projects across the cancer continuum and across disciplines, with an ultimate goal of solving a problem in cancer. Among the sixteen recipients is Dr. Isabella Tai (*pictured*). [Read More](#)

[View All Featured Awards](#) | [View All Monthly Award Summaries](#)

Local News

UBC Researchers Launch Clinical Trial Exploring CBD for Bipolar Depression

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Researchers at UBC's Faculty of Medicine are launching a first-of-its-kind clinical trial investigating the potential of cannabidiol (CBD) as a treatment for bipolar depression. The new trial is led by Dr. Lakshmi Yatham (*pictured*) and will explore whether CBD can help manage acute bipolar depression alongside primary courses of treatment. [Read More](#)

STEMCELL Technologies Announces Successful Asset Purchase Agreement with SQZ Biotechnologies Company

STEMCELL Technologies



STEMCELL Technologies is pleased to announce the acquisition of substantially all assets of SQZ Biotechnologies Company — a Massachusetts-based biotech known for its game-changing method of introducing a variety of therapeutic cargo into cells by squeezing them rather than using electricity. This is STEMCELL's second acquisition in the biotechnology sector this year. [Read More](#)

Celebrating a Decade of Excellence in Brain Health

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



On February 8, donors and friends of the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health gathered to celebrate a decade of excellence in research, education and patient care since the official opening of the building in 2014. "I'd like to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation and the late Dr. Mowafaghian — thank you so much for putting your trust in UBC more than a decade ago," said Dr. Benoit-Antoine Bacon (*pictured*). [Read More](#)

Watch How AI-Driven Robots Are Taking Over Repetitive Tasks at a BC Hospital Lab

CBC News



Far from the jungle, Tarzan and Jane swing quietly into action in a sterile laboratory at St. Paul's Hospital in downtown Vancouver. They are robots that work with artificial intelligence to handle and process up to 70 per cent of the hospital's microbiology samples. Lab automation is not new, but the hospital says this use of AI is a first for Western Canada. [Read More](#)

[View All Local News](#) | [Submit an Article](#)

Interesting Articles

adMare BioInnovations Opens Applications for the Spring 2024 Cohort of the BioInnovation Scientist Program

adMare BioInnovations



adMare BioInnovations (adMare) has opened applications for the Spring 2024 cohort of the adMare Academy BioInnovation Scientist (BIS) Program: Foundations. Alongside the Foundations program, adMare has also launched and opened applications for their new training offering, the BIS Program: Industry Essentials. [Read More](#)

[View All Interesting Articles](#) | [Submit an Article](#)

Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- March 5
8:00 AM

Blakes Breakfast Speaking Series Navigating Life Sciences M&A: Thought Leader Insights
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
- March 6
11:00 AM

Genome BC's Genomics and Society Symposium 2024
Sngegu House
- March 6
6:30 PM

Nobel Prize Lectures
Science World
- March 7
9:00 AM

Pathways to Biotech: Navigating Your Science Career
Online
- March 7
7:00 PM

Science Slam: Slam to the Future
Fox Cabaret


[View All Events](#) | [Submit an Event](#)

Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Computational Biologist, Single Cell and Spatial Omics Analyses**
UBC Department of Cellular & Physiological Sciences
- Principal Scientist, Antibody Drug Conjugates**
AbCellera
- Senior Research Associate**
Cytiva
- PET Technologist, Molecular Imaging and Therapy**
BC Cancer
- Executive Director, Operations**
SFU Medical School

[View 50 Other Science Jobs](#) | [Submit a Job](#)

Setting Up a New Lab?
Get a Head Start With Our New Lab Start-Up Program



[APPLY NOW](#)

Submit your articles and events by reaching out to us at info@scienceinvanancouver.com.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



STEMCELL Technologies
Products | Services

STEMCELL Science News
Free Weekly Updates on Your Field

The Stem Cell Podcast
Interviews and Updates on Stem Cell Science

